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UNIVERSITY OF JORDAN



SIMON JENKINS

Pinter and Stoppard stage a comeback

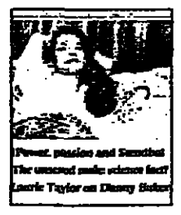
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ALAN COREN

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VISION

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THE TIMES

No. 64,788 SATURDAY OCTOBER 30 1993

Hume-Adams initiative rejected

Reynolds and Major set out peace terms

FROM PHILIP WEBSTER
POLITICAL EDITOR
IN BRUSSELS

■ The Irish and British governments aim to revive the moribund talks on the future of Ulster with a set of six principles for peace in the province

JOHN Major and Albert Reynolds last night agreed to launch a fresh attempt to bring peace to Northern Ireland. And while they rejected outright the recent nationalist initiative, they suggested that they would talk to the IRA once it had demonstrated that it had abandoned violence.

The two leaders, who met during the EC summit in Brussels, vowed to try to revive the stalled talks between the constitutional parties in the province and said there could be no question of their adopting or endorsing the report of the dialogue between John Hume of the SDLP and Gerry Adams of Sinn Fein. But they added that if the IRA ever proved that it had renounced violence, "new doors could open".

Although Mr Major and Mr Reynolds did not refer specifically to the six-point peace plan put forward by the Irish foreign minister Dick Spring on Thursday, they agreed to pursue a number of its proposals in setting out their own six principles for a solution. Those were:

☐ The situation in Northern Ireland should never be changed by violence or the threat of violence.

☐ Any political settlement must depend on consent freely given in the absence of force or intimidation.

☐ There can be no talks between the two governments and those who use, threaten or support political violence.

☐ There can be no secret agreements or understandings between governments and organisations supporting violence "as a price for its cessation".

☐ Those claiming a serious interest in advancing peace in Ireland should renounce for good the use of support for violence.

☐ If and when a renunciation of violence has been made and sufficiently demonstrated, "new doors could open" and both governments would wish to respond imaginatively to the new situation which would arise.

Explaining the expression that new doors could open, Mr Major said that the government wanted to hear from the IRA that they had repudiated violence. "By that, I do not mean a short-term ceasefire to be casually tossed away at the first opportunity. I mean the clearest possible indication that they have decided to give up violence for good."

Britain has always insisted that there should be a lengthy "quarantine" period to prove that any such disavowel was genuine, and Mr Major's call for a "sufficient demonstration" was directly in conflict with one of the key points in Mr Spring's plan, which said the men of violence should be allowed a place at the negotiating table the moment they threw down their arms.

Mr Major described Mr Spring's speech as extremely constructive, even though he did not agree with every aspect; there were points in it that he accepted wholeheartedly. The British government had earlier welcomed Mr Spring's plan because of its apparent readiness to amend the Irish constitution, giving up its constitutional claim to the north and its acceptance that there could be no constitutional change in the province without the freely expressed consent of the majority of people living there.

The Irish plan was designed to sideline the controversial Hume-Adams initiative, which Mr Reynolds outlined to Mr Major yesterday. Both leaders acknowledged Mr Hume's "courageous and imaginative efforts", but it was clear that fierce Unionist opposition made it impossible for Mr Major to take it any further.

Instead, they agreed that the constitutional talks process must be given new impetus. "They regard that process as vital and its objectives as valid and achievable," a joint statement said.

Afterwards, Mr Major told a press conference: "I do not think anyone wants to see the events of the last 20 years perpetuate themselves for the next 20 years. We need to get the constitutional parties together and talk." The two leaders will themselves meet again within six weeks.

Last night, Mr Adams denounced Mr Major's enthusiastic response to Dublin's proposals as a cynical ploy to shield his reluctance to find peace. The Dublin proposals were earlier rejected by the Democratic Unionists, although the Official Unionists were divided on the plan.

Catholics' fear, page 2
EC summit, page 12
Leading article and Letters, page 17



Some of the tens of thousands of Belgian trade unionists who marched through Brussels yesterday to protest at government austerity measures

Kohl claims monetary union is 'unstoppable'

FROM GEORGE BROCK AND PHILIP WEBSTER IN BRUSSELS

HELMUT Kohl, the German chancellor, yesterday brushed aside John Major's doubts about a single currency by declaring that the drive towards European monetary union was "unstoppable".

He was speaking hours before a strained European Community summit meeting here named Frankfurt, home of Germany's Bundesbank, as the site for the future European Central Bank. EC leaders, including Mr Major, also formally confirmed their "objective" of economic and monetary union "by the end of the century". Britain has an opt-out from the single currency written into the Maastricht treaty, which comes into force and creates the European Union on Monday.

The one-day gathering here was marred by a lengthy row among the heads of government over the sites for an array of EC institutions.

Last night Herr Kohl thanked the prime minister for having allowed the central bank deal to go ahead. "I would like to thank John Major for deciding to accept this document," he said. "It was a very personal commitment from him."

Mr Major infuriated his colleagues by threatening to veto the whole package, including the central bank, unless Britain won the European Medicine Evaluation Agency, a testing unit for new drugs and one of the largest of the new bodies. But in what appeared to be a settling of old scores, several other countries notably Spain and to a lesser extent Ireland and Portugal, pitched for it. After Spain had been offered two agencies, dealing with trademarks and health and safety, as a consolation, Mr Major got his way.

Herr Kohl flatly ignored a call from Mr Major to avoid the temptation of "reciting the mantra of full economic union". Although Mr Major steered away from controversy over monetary union in his speech to the summit yesterday, Herr Kohl took his revenge. The chancellor said that the meeting must demonstrate that Europe's difficulties over Maastricht and the collapse of the ERM had been defeated. "That must be the message from Brussels to the people," he said.

On the timetable for monetary union, later confirmed by the summit communiqué, Herr Kohl said that the "dates hold as before". Only this week Mr Major had predicted that the single currency would not come this century, and probably not well into the next.

Along with the decision over the siting of the central bank, Eurosceptics in the Conservative party will see Herr Kohl's remarks as firm evidence that Germany is in the driving-seat in Europe. In his speech to the summit Mr Major only said to his fellow heads of government: "You know my views about stage three of EMU [the single currency phase], but that is not an issue today."

EC summit, page 12
Leading article, page 17

MPs' pay rise plan fuels union anger

BY JONATHAN PRYNN, POLITICAL REPORTER

TORY backbenchers joined trade unions last night in condemning proposals to increase MPs' salaries by nearly twice the rate of inflation.

The plans, which would take the basic Commons salary to £31,687, come as public sector workers are preparing for a pay squeeze next year after receiving rises of just 1.5 per cent during the current year.

MPs will vote on Wednesday on the proposed 2.7 per cent increase for 1994 with a further 2.68 per cent in 1995.

Michael Bates, Tory MP for Langbaurgh, said it was an outrage that MPs should receive such an increase "when we are asking all public servants to play their part in having a pay freeze".

Officials said the award included a "catch-up" element after two years of frozen salaries for MPs. It restores the link between the pay of MPs and civil servants, suspended last year.

Unions are certain to cite the award in negotiations with employers in next year's pay rounds. Alan Jinkinson, leader of Unison, said it would be "grossly hypocritical" for ministers and MPs to vote themselves an increase nearly twice that to which public sector workers are being restricted.

Vote backs women priests

BY JENNY KNIGHT

THE ordination of women priests into the Church of England was backed overwhelmingly by the House of Commons yesterday.

If the House of Lords also approves the measure, it will return to the General Synod in February for formal endorsement, enabling the first woman priest to be ordained next spring.

The debate in the House of Commons yesterday attracted impassioned speeches from opponents of the measure including John Gummer, the environment secretary, and Ann Widdecombe, junior employment minister.

The 194-vote majority was greeted by cheers in the chamber.

Commons voting, page 10

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Bottomley forced to raise NHS charges

BY JILL SHERMAN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

BIG rises in National Health Service charges are expected from next April as part of the Chancellor's efforts to bring down the budget deficit and contain spending below £253.6 billion next year.

Virginia Bottomley, the health secretary, has agreed to substantial increases in prescription charges, eye tests and dental fees as the price for protecting hospital services.

The increased charges are the price of Mrs Bottomley's success in fighting off Treasury demands for compulsory "hotel charges" in hospitals and forcing pensioners to pay for their prescriptions. Although both ideas were dismissed as scare stories by the Chancellor and the prime minister earlier this year, Michael Portillo, the chief treasury secretary has been pursuing the themes.

Health department sources made clear last night that Mr Portillo had not won the argument for next year. Radical changes are still anticipated in the future as the result of Mr Portillo's long term review of the health service.

Mrs Bottomley is one of several ministers who have now settled in this year's public expenditure round. She has secured a minimal real terms increase in her £30 increase health spending every year of the current parliament had been under threat during the negotiations.

However, Downing Street sources made clear that bids could reopen if the full cabinet felt that one department had been too heavily hit or had got off too lightly.

Following ministers' failure to reach agreement on proposals from the special spending committee last Thursday, two further cabinet meetings will be held next week. The two outstanding issues remain defence spending and the size of the compensation package for the imposition of Vat on fuel from next April. Although Peter Lilley, the social security secretary, secured cabinet approval for legislation to tighten eligibility for invalidity benefit, he failed to get "sweeteners" to soften the blow to existing claimants.

The decision to raise health charges well over the inflation rate next year will be a further blow to pensioners and low income groups. Although pensioners are exempt from prescription charges they do have to pay dental fees and eye test charges unless they are on income support or family credit.

Last April prescription charges rose by 13.7 per cent to

Tube deal revives Docklands

BY OUR BUSINESS STAFF

THE £1.8 billion extension to London Underground's Jubilee Line, which will provide 20,000 jobs at the peak of construction, was approved yesterday.

John MacGregor, the transport secretary, hailed the decision as "excellent news for London and especially for London Docklands". Work will begin almost immediately, and should be completed within five years.

Bankers to the Canary Wharf office development in Docklands last night pledged to pump more money into the project after the announcement. Sir Peter Levene, chairman and chief executive of Canary Wharf, which emerged from administration yesterday, said that transport had been the most critical problem facing the project. "The development has changed from being the most inaccessible place to one that is more accessible than anywhere else in London," he said.

Sir Peter said the complex was now 50 per cent let; he expected more international companies as tenants.

On Tube map, page 7
Business details, page 21

Official: London's East End exists

BY ANDREW PIERCE

LONDON'S East End, a place of folk myth, wartime stoicism, Jack the Ripper, Petticoat Lane, the Bloody Tower, *EastEnders*, jellied eels and, intermittently, ugly racism, may soon start calling itself . . . The East End.

Officially the area is Tower Hamlets, a much unloved name with yuppie undertones. But civic leaders, numbed by the election of a British National Party councillor in Millwall last month, want to bring a clear sense of identity to the area and restore its pride and traditions.

The idea for the name change, which will make East Enders into East Enders for the first time in the area's history, was put forward by Vincent Hanna, the well-known Irishman. The television presenter and political consultant, whose services were retained for a £50,000 fee over three to four months, to advise the working-class heartland borough on how to improve its efficiency.

Peter Hughes, Liberal Democrat leader of Tower Hamlets council, said: "We want to reclaim the name East End. No one else should be able to claim it. We want to be formally known as The East End."

Mr Hanna's proposals will cost the local authority, which has huge rent and council tax arrears, tens of thousands of pounds to change stationery, road signs and vehicles. The council has also adopted Hanna's idea to relaunch the borough newspaper, which will be called *East End Life*, at a cost of £75,000.

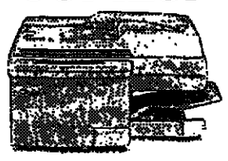
Last year Mr Hanna was embroiled in controversy when his company, paid £20,000 by Birmingham City Council for a similar project, proposed the city spend £200,000 on a replacement civic symbol. He argued that the original — in red, white and blue — was sexist and



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Fearful Catholics plan to move their families from Ulster

BY NICHOLAS WATT, IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

MANY Catholic families in Belfast are so frightened by the gangs of Loyalist gunmen who have murdered six men in as many days that they are planning to leave Ulster.

Parents are keeping their children in after dark and social events have been cancelled in the wake of the spiral of revenge killings that followed Saturday's IRA bomb attack in Belfast.

In Catholic west Belfast and the Ardoyne area of the city yesterday locals said they were even more frightened after the killing of two young men in Balyduggan, Co Down. Gerard Cairns, 22, and his brother Rory, 18, were shot dead on Thursday night by Loyalist gunmen in front of their 11-year-old sister. They had been watching television in their home.

Yesterday Catholics went about their business as usual, but there was little time for gossip on the streets of Belfast as they hurried back to the relative safety of their homes.

One man in the Ardoyne area, too frightened to give his name, said he was waiting for someone to be shot. "Everyone is expecting something to happen here, especially with the [Shankill] bomber coming from the area. There is extra security on the bookies and locals are asking strangers to identify themselves," he said.

Ardoyne is a Catholic enclave near the Protestant Shankill Road, where Saturday's bomb exploded. More than 150 residents have been killed by Loyalists in the past 25 years. As he spoke, the man looked around nervously and hid his face when a stranger started taking photographs. He said that "Mad Dog", the most notorious Loyalist killer, had recently been sighted in the area.

"He was on one of his dummy runs. People tried to catch him but he was too quick and the police can't do anything because he is clever enough not to carry guns."

Along the road, children in tatty clothes, too young to understand the tension, kicked a football around. Black IRA flags hung from lamp posts and republican murals decorated the sides of homes.

The man too nervous to be identified was particularly worried for the safety of his five children. "We are keeping them in at night. I'd like to go out to the bookies in the day and watch the races but it's just not safe enough at the moment."

A shopkeeper on the Falls Road in west Belfast said she and her husband planned to leave Ulster. "It is very tense and frightening at the moment. My husband has never talked about moving to the south but it is a serious option even though it would take us away from our family. We just want to be safe and bring up our children away from danger."

In the bleak Beechmount area off the Falls Road locals said they had bought extra locks for their doors. Beechmount is one of the most deprived parts of Belfast. Houses are daubed with IRA signs and children play on a slum clearance site.

Jim Armstrong, 36, who has five children, said: "At 6.00pm sharp we close the front door and put bars across it. I am wary of strangers and if I see a new face I watch them.

"My 11-year-old son comes in from school, does his homework and can then only go out for half an hour. It would be nice for him to have a proper run around with his friends, but he can't. I would leave for America tomorrow if I could, but I don't have the money."

It saddened him, he said, to see his children grow up in the shadow of the same violence he knew as a youngster at the start of the present Troubles in the late 1960s.

☐ Sir Patrick Mayhew, the Northern Ireland secretary, last night condemned the killings of the two Catholic brothers on Thursday night as wanton and inexcusable. At the end of the bloodiest week in Ulster for eight years he said: "I am afraid that there may be more people who will suffer because there are many dangerous people out there who are determined at the moment upon violence."

☐ Eight loyalists were arrested in Belfast yesterday in connection with a series of sectarian attacks in the province.

Major and Reynolds, page 1
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SIMON WALKER



A child in Belfast playing beneath a mural of a small Loyalist paramilitary group

NEWS IN BRIEF

EC to site new drug agency in London

London will be the site of the new European Medicines Evaluation Agency, the European summit in Brussels decided yesterday (Nigel Hawkes writes).

The agency, which will be responsible for evaluating new drugs on a Community-wide basis, is expected eventually to bring thousands of jobs to London. Its staff will be only 300, but many international drug companies are now expected to locate European offices in London to take advantage of proximity to the new agency.

Yesterday Virginia Bottomley, the health secretary, said: "It will mean more investment and more jobs. This is good news for Britain, good news for London and good news for the British and European pharmaceutical industries."

More bomb charges

An alleged IRA terrorist was charged at the Old Bailey yesterday with three further counts of conspiracy to cause explosions in London in December 1992. Patrick Hayes is already accused of the Harrods bombing last January and the bombing of a train in February. Hayes and Jan Taylor, who also faces bombing charges, refused to plead.

£1 design to change

The Chancellor, Kenneth Clarke, yesterday approved a new series of designs for the reverse of the £1 coin, the first of which will come into circulation next year. The designs will represent each of the four parts of the UK and replace the Welsh leek, Scottish thistle, English oak and Northern Ireland flax on the current coins.

Petrol bomb thrown

About 30 Kurdish demonstrators were arrested yesterday after a petrol bomb was thrown through the window of a Turkish Airline office in the West End of London, starting a small fire. Scotland Yard said one of them was being held on suspicion of hurling the bomb. More than 50 demonstrators halted traffic by sitting down in the street.

Hunt supporters guilty

Roger Wakefield, 40, an Essex Farmers and Union Hunt terrierman, and Bryn Chittenden, 27, his assistant, were convicted yesterday of violent disorder at a meet last April. Knightsbridge Crown Court, London, remanded them for sentencing. Wakefield had told a saboteur: "This time we are going to give you a lesson." Hunting campaign, page 8

Bereaved father dies

A man fell to his death from a multi-storey car park six weeks after his son killed himself in prison. Thomas Lafferty, 54, a former North Sea union leader, was found dead on Wednesday on a Glasgow street. His son Thomas, 21, died in Polmont young offenders' institution, and is thought to have hanged himself.

Bottomley wins bonus



Virginia Bottomley, the health secretary, left, has secured £1.3 billion for local councils to spend on community care from next April. The sum, £20 million more than originally pledged, was welcomed by social services directors who feared a cut in spending. Mrs Bottomley also gained an extra £418 million for 1996-7. The cash was settled in the early part of the public spending round.

Life for shooting rival

A civil servant who shot his rival in love was jailed for life yesterday. Teesside Crown Court heard that Anthony Bennett, 52, of Norton, Cleveland, killed Kevin McEvoy to eliminate him from a love triangle. They were competing for the affections of Pamela Ainsley, a married mother of three. All three were members of the same camera club.

Museum's gems stolen

Thieves smashed a museum's toughened glass window and stole treasures from the era of King Alfred the Great. The raiders escaped from Winchester City Museum with Saxon gems worth £10,000. They failed to open cabinets containing Roman artifacts. "The thief got away with our finest items," Geoff Denford, senior keeper, said.

Conservation areas face funding threat

THE dramatic growth in conservation areas, where buildings are given special status for their character or history, is outstripping the abilities of some councils to care for them, Nick Nuttall writes.

A report published yesterday by the Royal Town Planning Institute indicates that many of these areas are at risk from demolition, decay and persistent development pressures.

The institute yesterday urged the government, which is evaluating planning rules, to help local authorities to care better for such areas with more funds and manpower in conservation departments. Martin Bradshaw, its president, said they were also demanding a change in the VAT rules so that works to listed buildings were exempt from tax.

However, there were suggestions yesterday on BBC's *Today* programme that housing and inner city funding will be the biggest losers in the autumn Budget.

The institute's study, based on a survey of 280 local authorities, found that since the late 1960s the number of conservation areas has grown from none to nearly 8,000, with up to 400 new sites listed annually.

But Dr Peter Larkham, of the University of Central England in Birmingham, and one of the report's authors, warned: "The rate of designations is outstripping our skills and resources. In times of recession it is often the conservation budget which is the first to go."

Howard moves to reduce use of cautions by police

BY RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

THE home secretary yesterday acted to cut the increasing use of police cautions for criminal behaviour and to bring thousands more people before the courts.

Michael Howard warned offenders who are cautioned that they should not expect to receive a second chance. He said he wanted to stop the use of cautions for serious offences and reduce drastically the number of repeated cautions given to offenders.

In future there would have to be exceptional circumstances for a second caution to be considered, such as an appreciable gap since the last offence.

The home secretary was responding to concern among police officers, magistrates and the judiciary that repeated cautions lead youngsters to regard the law with derision. Repeated cautions also threatened to undermine a system which had proved effective for many juveniles.

Mr Howard, who expects consultation on his proposals to be complete by the end of the year, said: "Repeated cautions send completely the wrong signal to offenders. People who commit crimes should expect to be prosecuted. If they are given a caution they should not expect another chance.

"If youngsters, when they begin to have contact with the criminal justice system, find themselves being cautioned time after time, there is a very real danger they will begin to think they can get away with anything.

"That is the most damaging signal that our system could send to them."

Formal cautions are given by an officer in uniform after a person has admitted the offence. They are written on a person's record and, in the case of juveniles, are delivered by an inspector in the presence of parents.

Last year there were 321,000 cautions for all offences, compared with 279,000 in 1991. Mr Howard described this as a big increase and added: "I expect to see a significant reduction."

Mr Howard's proposals will reverse the steady rise in the use of cautions as a way of dealing with crime, particularly among juveniles. In 1987, 149,000 offenders were cautioned for offences that could be tried either at Crown Court or before magistrates, compared with 216,000 last year.

Labour MPs claimed that proposed changes could lead to 80,000 more prosecutions a year, swamping the courts and legal aid budget. But Mr Howard said there had been a diminution of work coming before the courts, partly because of the increase in the number of cautions.

"The courts were coping before and I see no reason why they won't cope in the future," he said.

Figures for 1991 showed that 1,577 cautions were given for serious offences which could only be tried in the Crown Court. Mr Howard said police should never give cautions for the most serious offences, such as attempted murder or rape, and only in the most exceptional circumstances for other other serious offences such as robbery.

According to the Home Office, 87 per cent of all those who are cautioned are not reconvicted within two years.

MPs drop invitation to Sheehy

BY OUR HOME CORRESPONDENT

SIR Patrick Sheehy has had an invitation to speak to MPs about his proposals on police pay and conditions withdrawn, less than 24 hours after the government announced it would not proceed with the most contentious recommendations.

Sir Patrick had intended to give his response to Michael Howard's compromise package. He was told yesterday in a telephone call from Sir Ivan Lawrence, Conservative chairman of the home affairs select committee, that he would not be required to give evidence to a Commons committee next week. Neither Sir Patrick nor Sir Ivan was available for comment last night.

Labour sources on the committee said there had been no attempt to "nobble" the committee to prevent potential embarrassment to Mr Howard if Sir Patrick publicly disagreed with the home secretary's decision not to impelement key proposals. They said committee members felt the proposals were now a matter for the government and not Sir Patrick.

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REPORT FROM TUZLA



One of the countless children in Bosnia who need your help to survive

Whoever is guilty of creating the hell that is Bosnia today, Adisa Ekrem and thousands of children like her are the innocent victims.

Six-year-old Adisa lives in an overcrowded makeshift refugee shelter near Tuzla. Orphaned after a devastating mortar blast, Adisa herself was discovered fighting for her life by UK aid agency Feed the Children. The shelter was desperately short of food, particularly the food needed by young children.

Feed the Children delivers food, medical and hygiene supplies directly to children in immediate need. They're bringing hope to hell. Their work is fast, efficient, well targeted, and often carried out in very dangerous conditions. They have saved Adisa's life – and the lives of countless more children like her.

But every week, yet more children are made homeless. Feed the Children has pledged that if military action threatens aid deliveries to any area, they will continue to distribute supplies wherever they can in former Yugoslavia.

To do this, they need more support from people in Britain. *Times* readers can make a real difference. With £25, Feed the Children can feed 45 hungry infants for one day. Please give whatever you can to save the lives of these innocent children.

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THE SUNDAY TIMES

Victory in the Falklands

'I was bitterly depressed. It was three weeks since our troops had landed on the Falklands to recapture the islands from the Argentinians. The attack on Port Stanley



was about to begin; I hoped against hope that our worst losses were behind us. Early on the morning of June 12 the duty clerk came up to the flat at Number 10 with a note . . .'

Exclusive serialisation of the Thatcher memoirs continues tomorrow – only in The Sunday Times

Health charges to go up in Budget

Continued from page 1

£4.25 while dental checks rose by 6.7 per cent from £3.45 to £3.68. People who are not exempt have to pay 80 per cent of the full cost of NHS dental treatment up to a maximum of £200. Eye tests, charged by opticians, now save the government about £15 each.

Although 80 per cent of the population is exempt from prescription charges, consumer groups have claimed that rising costs have made it difficult for low income groups to afford all the drugs they are prescribed.

Mr Portillo has been arguing that those who can afford it should pay for health services to ensure that the government can continue to provide a safety net for those who cannot. Mr Portillo said last weekend that people needed to be certain that if they became ill the government would make sure all their health needs were met. If the government tried to provide everything the costs would become unsustainable.

The government has been warned that proposed cuts in John Gummer's housing budget would deal a "very serious blow" to the building industry and housing associations. The National Federation of Housing Associations reacted angrily to reports that at least £300 million would be cut from grants to the Housing Corporation which funds new homes.

Jim Coulter, the federation's director, said: "This is the most economically illiterate set of proposals yet to come out of government. Cuts would prolong the recession and hit the building industry just when it is beginning to recover."

Next week John Watts, the chairman of the Treasury and civil service committee, is expected to give the Chancellor the committee's full support for spending curbs. He will also advise against tax rises but suggest that if extra indirect taxes are imposed some of the revenue should go on helping small businesses.

Jazz FM

Trevor Dann's comment (Vision, October 23) about advertisements to fund Jazz FM being "conspicuous by their absence" substantially understated the volume of national advertisers using the station, and the amount — 80 per cent — of advertising air-time taken by advertisers, as opposed to the remaining 20 per cent used for station promotion. We apologise for the false impression given.



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Singer claims Sony suppressed sales to teach him a lesson

BY JOE JOSEPH

■ George Michael gave evidence for a second day as friends and relatives faced Sony executives across the courtroom

GEORGE Michael said yesterday that his American record company saw him as a difficult British artist with inflated ideas of his own importance when he tried to swap his raunchy image for one more likely to woo an adult audience.

"I was given the impression," the singer told the High Court on the tenth day of his lawsuit to free himself from a recording contract with Sony, "that I was a difficult British artist who takes himself too seriously and needs to be brought back into line."

Michael claims his contract with Sony, which has another 15 years to run, amounts to a restraint to trade.

Dressed in a black suit and his trademark designer stubble, Michael said Sony had decided to teach him a lesson by "killing" his 1990 album *Listen Without Prejudice* when he refused to market it with a video featuring himself. Michael, 30, felt a video might derail his transition to an "adult-oriented artist".

In the thick atmosphere of Michael's friends and relatives — including his parents Jack and Lesley Panayiotou — on one side of the courtroom and Sony executives on the other, Michael also denied he was "too grand" to help map a marketing strategy for *Listen Without Prejudice* with Sony. "I'm not too grand to sit around a table with the marketing people, but I pay a manager to do that," he told Gordon Pollock QC, counsel for Sony.

"You don't get respect that way. They knew very well how to do their job. It's a question of whether they have finance to do it. People in marketing don't decide how much to spend on an album. Executives in the company make that decision."

When Mr Pollock countered that Sony had spent as much time and money promoting *Listen Without Prejudice* as it had on the album's predecessor, *Faith*, which was a huge success, Michael said: "I think they are lying."

Michael, who maintained the calm self-confidence he had shown during his first day of testimony on Thursday, said he knew Sony would not be "ecstatic" about his change of direction. But he said that, for his part, he did not start complaining about the drop in sales, but about Sony's attitude to something previously discussed. "The promises they made to me were not being honoured. I was expecting them to buy profile for me."

Michael said the *Prejudice* album "was not prioritised". The singles culled from it were going into the US charts at a reasonably high position and moving quickly before stopping or slowing down. "They were not making that last effort or putting money into what creates a top five single," Michael said.

Mr Pollock said: "You are saying that the company deliberately decided to stultify sales of this album in America to teach you a lesson despite the loss of money it would involve for themselves."

Michael replied: "Yes. In this country I am one of the few very large-selling artists for Sony, but in America CBS [owned by Sony] is a hugely successful label with multi-million-selling artists and the failure of my album there would hardly make a dent in their profits." He agreed with Mr Justice Parker that he was alleging "spite".

Another hole was punched in his relationship with Sony when Michael objected to the way his anti-war song *Mother's Pride* was plugged by American disc jockeys at the time of the Gulf war.

"There was co-operation between the record company and various key syndicate radio stations whereby they would make up an edit of *Mother's Pride* interspersed with messages between mothers and sons in the Gulf. I found it extremely distasteful and totally at odds with the lyrics of the song, but I knew it was going on as a result of an agreement between Sony and the radio stations, although I have no evidence for this.

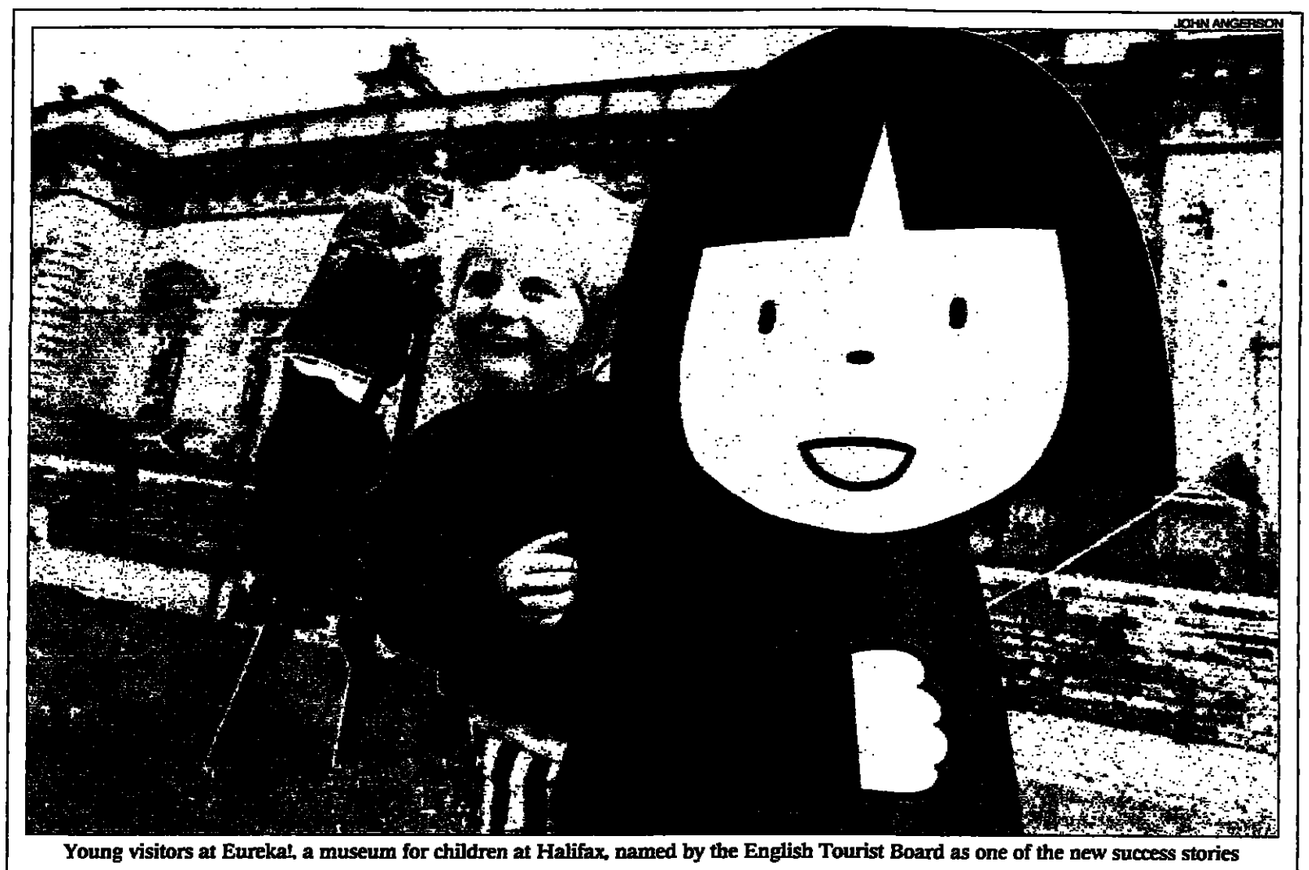
"I think it was unreasonable, once they knew my objections, to go on in this way. It was reasonable of me to say I had written an anti-war song and it was being used in a jingoistic fashion to promote the Gulf war. Most artists would take objection to this and their objections would be listened to.

"There was obviously a very great misunderstanding between us as to the validity of my decisions. It gave an indication I was going to have the same problem with my next album."

The hearing was adjourned until Monday.



Michael's parents Jack and Leslie arrive at court



JOHN ANGERSON

Young visitors at Eureka!, a museum for children at Halifax, named by the English Tourist Board as one of the new success stories

North sets its sights on London tourist trade

BY MARIANNE CURPHEY

NEW visitors' attractions are challenging traditional venues such as the Tower of London and Westminster Abbey and increasing tourism.

Figures published today by the English Tourist Board show that many are luring visitors to the North and Midlands. Liverpool's Pleasure Island, one of nearly a hundred new sites, had 680,000 visitors in its first season. The newcomers increased visits to the United Kingdom's 5,552 tourist attractions to 357 million in 1992, 1 per cent up on the previous year, and increased revenue by 6 per cent to £930 million.

The board's report, *Sightseeing in the UK 1992*, lists other success stories as Carsington Water in Ashbourne, Derbyshire (500,000 visitors in 1992); Eureka! The Museum for Children in Halifax, West Yorkshire (250,000); Cardiff Bay visitor centre (105,000); Snibston Discovery Bay, Coalville, Leicestershire (90,000); and Treasures of the Earth at Fort William, Highland (85,000).

Adele Biss, the board's chairman, said: "It is encouraging to see the wealth of new tourist attractions that opened last year. Despite the recession, attractions are showing that tourism can buck the trend and give a boost to the economy."

Museums and galleries enjoyed the fastest growth in visits in 1992 (up 4 per cent), followed by farms (up 3 per cent) and visitor centres (up 3 per cent). The top five attractions opened in the past five years and charging admission are the Granada Studios Tour, Manchester; Pleasure Island, Liverpool; Sea Life Centre, Blackpool; Rock Circus, London; and Metroland, Gateshead.

The board reported that 78 million visits were to historic properties, 60 million to museums, 22 million to wildlife attractions, 19 million to art galleries and 15 million to gardens.

Murdered girl 'played at home of accused'

BY A STAFF REPORTER

A GIRL of 11 yesterday described playing at the home of a man who is alleged to have murdered one of her friends.

She told Leeds Crown Court that she and Nikki Allan played on George Heron's bed at his home in Sunderland, Tyne and Wear.

Mr Heron, 24, denies murdering seven-year-old Nikki last October. The jury of six men and six women have been told that Mr Heron, knowing Nikki and exploiting her childish and naive trust, led her to a derelict building where he bludgeoned her with a brick before stabbing her 37 times in the chest.

The 11-year-old girl, giving evidence by video-link from another part of the building, said Mr Heron offered Nikki cigarettes, crisps and money, but he never touched the girls.

She said she went to his home on two occasions with Nikki. They played on the bed and played at cards.

Aidan Marron QC, for the prosecution, asked: "When you were there with Nikki was George there?" The girl replied "Yes." She recalles that the two had spoken and talked about "fags". She said Mr Heron had asked Nikki if she wanted any cigarettes. She said "Yes".

The girl said that she had seen Mr Heron give Nikki crisps, but under questioning by Mr Marron said that he had not touched either of the girls.

The trial continues on Monday.

New hope for kidnap family

BY JENNY KNIGHT

THE family of a British child who disappeared on the Greek island of Kos more than two years ago have fresh hope of finding him after the arrest of a suspected child-snatching ring in Athens.

The British consul in Athens has asked Greek police to extend their enquiries into the gang to include the case of Ben Needham, whose fourth birthday was yesterday. Four people were arrested in Greece after a couple were caught trying to sell a baby gypsy girl.

Ben's mother said: "I have always believed that Ben was snatched and sold. I am so relieved at these arrests. We had been told repeatedly that child-selling does not go on in Greece." Police in Greece are understood to be questioning 13 other people including a doctor and social worker over their involvement in the sale of at least 11 babies.

Ms Needham, of Sheffield, said: "I know in my heart Ben is still alive and that is what I will always believe until someone proves otherwise."

Ben's family have made several trips to Kos to try to trace him. They had suspected he was kidnapped by Mediterranean gypsies, but local police dismissed the theory.



Ben Needham aged 2, before he disappeared

Judge frees two men who had sex with 13-year-old

BY HELEN JOHNSTONE

THE judge who let a child *molester go free after finding* that his eight-year-old victim was "no angel" yesterday freed two men who had unlawful intercourse with a girl aged 13.

Judge Starforth Hill QC gave both men conditional discharges after police told the court that the girl was "more like Mandy Smith than the proverbial schoolgirl".

Judge Hill, 71, told the court: "She was a girl going around trying to find young men to satisfy her sexual desires. I consider the offence to be at the bottom end of the scale." He added: "I had better not say she was no angel or the national press will have a hundred field days."

In separate cases at Winchester Crown Court yesterday, Phillip Lemon, 21, an unemployed marine engineer from Southampton, and Keith Dyer, 19, a factory worker from Hythe, admitted having unlawful sex with the 13-year-old.

Later the judge said: "I have to pass a sentence because it is against the law and to prevent other young men from falling into the same trap. It would be folly on my part to pass a custodial sentence on you whatever the Court of Appeal may think."

Det Sgt Robert Bowness told the court that the girl, now aged 14, who was exceptionally attractive, had a bad reputation for her involvement with boys. Her parents had tried to protect her from herself but she had lied to them about her activities.

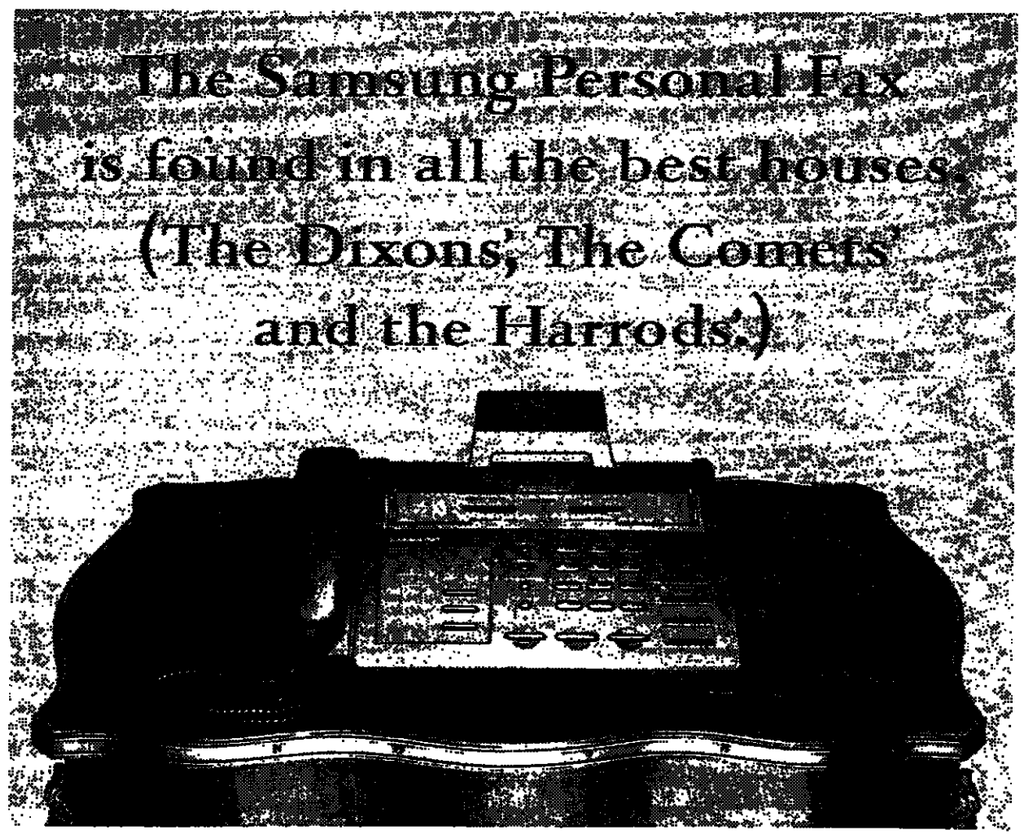
Counsel for the two men said the girl had encouraged them. Judge Hill said: "This girl may have been a very willing partner and encouraged you to take part in this offence. But girls of 13 years have to be protected, even from themselves."

A youth of 17 who also admitted sexual intercourse with the same girl was let off with a caution on Crown Prosecution Service instructions, the court was told.

In June this year Judge Starforth Hill was widely criticised after he put babysitter Karl Gambrill, 21, on probation for two years after he admitted attempted unlawful intercourse with the eight-year-old in the "no angel" case. Three Appeal Court judges later ruled the sentence was unduly lenient and jailed him for four months.

In September Judge Starforth Hill faced renewed criticism for fining a Gulf war veteran who had tied up a girl friend and forced her to perform an indecent sexual act. In another case, the judge jailed a man for 18 months who had plied a 15-year-old boy with drink before attempting to have sex with him as he slept. The sentence outraged the boy's parents.

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Orcadians celebrate a life well lived



The funeral service of Lord Grimond at St Magnus Cathedral at Kirkwall stirs old memories for the former Liberal MP **Clement Freud**

WE ARE met, said the Rev R. Ferguson, to celebrate a life well lived.

The cathedral of St Magnus in Kirkwall was 80 per cent full and several hundred Orcadians stood hushed on the pavement. I asked why they did not enter. "They're concerned about appearing to intrude on a private grief. It is their way," said the undertaker.

On the plane from Aberdeen Lord Mackie of Benshie, representing Jo Grimond's colleagues in the House of Lords, said: "Jo liked to be well thought of; he will be pleased we came."

Laura Grimond arrived in the cathedral on the arm of her daughter. Jo was a handsome man with an extraordinarily handsome family. We sang "Mine Eyes Have Seen The Glory of the Coming of the Lord". The acoustics at St Magnus, built by Vikings 800 years ago, are very fine, and with the music old memories returned.

I had been in Parliament for a month or so, not really knowing which matter to give priority, when I asked Grimond how he spent *his* days. He replied: "I can tell you exactly. I arrive at the Members' Entrance and hang up my coat, go to the post office for my mail ... and then I spend most of the rest of the day trying to remember where I put it."

Sir David Steel read the second lesson from St Paul's letters to the Ephesians (St Paul had written about the "self-defeating language of abuse" which Grimond almost alone among prominent politicians never used).

Grimond won the seat of Orkney and Shetland in 1950 and kept it for 33 years. In the sixties it was said his support was so strong there was not a Tory vote from Muckle Flugga to Dallachoilish.

When he retired from the Commons in 1983 he was the first Liberal since the war to bequeath his constituency to a man of the same political persuasion — and he continued to live on Orkney, commuting to the House of Lords, modest, generous, always available to give sound advice to friends, colleagues and former constituents.

Jim Wallace, who succeeded him as MP, asked what he should do about local people who objected to the culling of seals. "... what is the party line?" "I always used to go on holiday," replied the great man.

After the final hymn I remembered taking Grimond to lunch at the Savoy in the 1970s, asking what — apart from being prime minister — he had wanted to do.

He said he would like to have been an ambassador for a few weeks, or captain of the Savoy hotel... and I said: "A hotel manager has to remember names; you have nine colleagues and I bet you can't name six". He named five, smiled, had another sip of wine — "perhaps I'd better stay in Parliament".

Photograph, page 20

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RSI divides doctors and lawyers as court cases pile up

By Nigel Hawkes
Science Editor

■ Is repetitive strain injury real, or is the term itself the trouble? With more cases in the offing, judges will not have an easy time

MEDICAL and legal experts are divided over the existence of repetitive strain injury.

Orthopaedic surgeons say the term is meaningless and has no identifiable pathological basis, the stance taken by Judge Prosser QC in the High Court on Thursday when rejecting a claim by Rafiq Mughal, a Reuter journalist.

Physiotherapists, chiropractors, trade unions, lawyers, the Health and Safety Executive and ergonomists assert that, however difficult it may be to define, RSI is a real and growing problem.

With hundreds and perhaps thousands of cases waiting to come to court, the two sides in this increasingly bitter dispute will have plenty of chances to argue it out.

The term itself is part of the problem. John Varian, a hand surgeon from Blackrock Clinic in Dublin, says that most patients show no injury, no strain and often no repetitive movements either. "The term is very emotive and very useful for those making claims," he says. "It is used by unions, lawyers and plaintiffs to cover anything that causes pain."

In his experience, covering more than 600 patients, a third are suffering a genuine physical condition, another third have pain from arthritis that has nothing to do with work, and a further third have pain of psychological origin. "One doesn't like to use the term mass hysteria," he says. "But the epidemic-like spread of RSI can sometimes look rather like that. A naturally anxious person, told at work about the dangers, is likely to develop symptoms."

Another surgeon says plainly: "There is no such thing as RSI. When you examine patients there's nothing to find, there's nothing physically wrong. RSI is a slick phrase, dreamed up in Australia." Mr Varian and that surgeon exclude the recognised condition of tenosynovitis, in which the sheath around a tendon becomes inflamed, from their strictures about RSI.

Dr Peter Buckle, head of the ergonomics research unit at Surrey University, agrees that the term RSI can mislead: he prefers "work-related upper limb disorders". "It can affect anywhere from the finger to the elbow, and which part of the system goes down for any individual is a bit problematic," he says. "But are we going to say that because we can't see it, it doesn't exist? I think this was a very, very poor judgment, and it smacks to me of an attempt to sit on the whole issue and discourage people from going to court."

The judge's remark that "eggshell personalities" were prone to complain of RSI was taken up by Ian Galer, an ergonomist from Loughborough University, who said that stress and the social psychology of work could play a role in the condition. "In a disorder as diffuse as this, there are likely to be a number who are playing up and simply seeking compensation," he says. "There are others in whom it is related to physical activity at work, and others where it is related to stress. But I'm not saying any form is any less real than any other."

The British Orthopaedic Association was asked for advice by the Industrial Injuries Advisory Council, and concluded that with the exception of writer's cramp and tenosynovitis, there were no further types of RSI that could be "unambiguously defined both clinically and pathologically".

Fraser Whitehead, a partner in Russell, Jones and Walker, the London firm of solicitors which represents some 200 plaintiffs, said: "RSI is a fact, the damage it does is permanent, and the government must address the problem. Where's the research? Industrial deafness was ignored in the 1950s, now we have thousands of pensioners who are deaf because employers wouldn't spend a few pence on ear protectors."

He said that he was worried that such an important case should have been handled by a judge of "inappropriate seniority". Judge Prosser's remarks about eggshell personalities was, he said, irrelevant.



School-leavers bound for offices face an on-screen future

Legislators struggle to keep up with technology

By Lin Jenkins

THE pace of technological advances, which by 2000 will see a computer terminal on the desk of almost every office worker, has put legislators in a spin.

Employers have until the end of 1996 to comply with legal requirements designed to protect office workers from muscular skeletal problems, upper limb disorders and various problems caused by posture.

Once, the speed of progress allowed rules to protect a workforce to be concurrent, now regulations can only be based on the position in retrospect.

The Health and Safety Executive, along with the rest of the EC, accepts that there are injuries which can be sustained by working with display screen equipment. For the first time this year employers have a legal obligation towards the seven million employees who use screens.

The cost of implementing the new rules is estimated at £294 million, or £40 per work station. New systems introduced since the beginning of this year have to comply with the rules, while existing systems have until the end of 1996 to reach the agreed standard.

The regulations control both the equipment and the working environment. Screens must display legible, well-spaced characters at a sufficient size and clarity without glare or excessive flickering. The contrast between the characters and background must be capable of constant adjustment by the operator. The screen and the keyboard must be mobile so the operator can move them at will.

Those using terminals must be able to move about at will. They are no longer allowed to be locked into one position but must be able to vary their movement to reduce the likelihood of repetitive movements.

The keyboard surface must be of a matt finish to reduce glare and there are specific requirements regarding the levels of noise, heat and space under which a person can be expected to work.

A spokesman for the Health and Safety Executive said: "The rules allow for horses for courses. What is suitable for one person is not necessarily the same as what will be required for another. The rules give guidelines on how they should be implemented, but the situation can vary for person to person.

"The rules are laid in terms which a layman might think is mushy language, but that is because of the changing technology."

Employers also have obligations regarding the seating and posture of those working at a screen. The seat must be adjustable in height, give lumber support, swivel and put no excess pressure on the thigh or back of knee. Foot supports must be made available and there should be no obstacles under the desk.

The working position must allow the forearms to be horizontal and allow for free movement of the wrists. The height and angle of the screen must allow the operator to have "comfortable head position".

The operator must also have enough room to put his or her hands elsewhere between bouts of keying.

For the first time employers have a legal obligation to carry out a formal risk assessment in respect of white collar workers.

Violence halts Punch and Judy

A PUNCH and Judy man has been forced to abandon his show because of violence from children.

Len Belmont, a grandfather, said: "Children are getting more and more violent, and I blame today's computer games and television.

"I've stopped doing the show because the story doesn't seem to matter anymore — they just want the violence.

"Once I got into my Punch and Judy tent I never knew what was going to happen. The kids threw all sorts of things at me and my puppets, including old drink cartons, cans, and ice creams." His puppets will now be sold.

Mr Belmont, of Hackney, east London, said: "Children today just aren't prepared to watch a show like mine. They prefer violent video and computer games. The whole point of a video game is violence, zapping people with machine guns, pushing others over cliffs or ripping their heads off."

He said fellow entertainers from around the country were experiencing similar trouble.

"A friend who is a puppeteer was struck by a shovel wielded by a kid as he performed a Punch and Judy show. Some of the behaviour is appalling."

Mr Belmont plans to carry on doing children's shows — as long as he can see his audience. "I felt so vulnerable in the Punch and Judy tent because I didn't know what the little horrors might do."

Witness met accused in woods

A TEENAGER told the Old Bailey yesterday how he found accused murderer Sandra Wignall shaking and shouting after the knife attack which killed her husband.

Richard Vinnicombe, 19, his brother Stephen and friend Nathan Burkitt also passed two men when walking through Sayes Wood, Surrey, just minutes before finding Mrs Wignall, the court heard.

Her husband Bob, 55, was stabbed three times and battered around the head during the attack in the woods on September 5 last year.

Mrs Wignall, 48, of Addlestone, Surrey, claimed three youths set about her husband in an unprovoked attack. But the court was earlier told that she lured him into the woods and her lover Terence Bewley, 42, and Harold Moult, 43, killed him.

Mr Vinnicombe told the court: "We came across her in a clearing. She was moving around backwards and forwards. She was not saying anything. She saw us. First of all she said 'Stay away', then something like 'Stay away, stay back'".

"She told us her husband had been attacked. She said he was attacked by three blokes who had asked her if they had seen a dog."

Mr Vinnicombe told the court that they had earlier passed two men on the path.

Mrs Wignall, Mr Bewley, of Ruislip, west London, and Mr Moult, of Birmingham, all deny murder.

The trial continues.

Women's pay still 20% behind men

WOMEN still earn 20 per cent less than men on average and lag behind in pension settlements, benefit payments and training opportunities, a conference was told yesterday.

Valerie Amos, chief executive of the Equal Opportunities Commission, said the problems were often magnified in rural areas.

Ms Amos told the equal opportunities conference in Inverness that 87 per cent of Britain's five million part-time workers were women, many of whom did not pay national insurance and were not entitled to unemployment or sickness payments.

"Twenty years after the Equal Pay Act, women's full-time earnings are, on average, 79 per cent of men's. When we look at part-time work it can be as low as 55," she said.

Because of anomalies during their working lives, women's pensions could be half of those that were paid to men.

"When you take all the inequalities together, women can earn on average a third of what men earn during their lifetime. It adds up to a picture of women living in greater poverty in later life."

Ms Amos said women in rural areas faced extra problems: the lack of child care, poor transport and limited training opportunities.

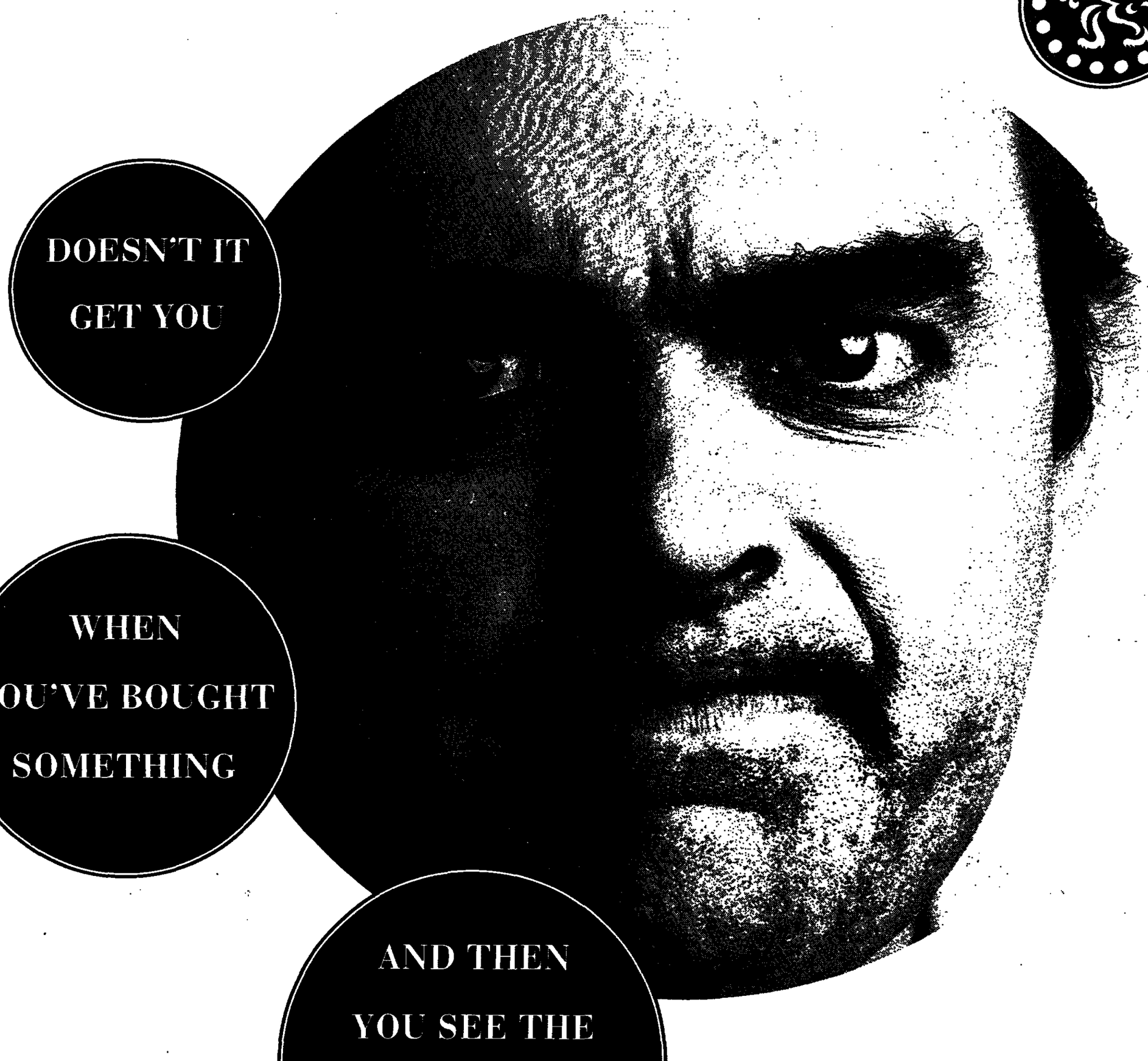
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Husband's plea saves guilty wife from jail

BY A STAFF REPORTER

A WOMAN and her former lover yesterday escaped going to jail, having admitted plotting to murder her husband, when he intervened and begged the judge to be lenient.

Morag Taylor, 36, and Martin Randall, 31, admitted conspiring to murder George Taylor, 39, between August 1, 1991, and December 23 last year, and paying an unknown man £1,000 to carry it out. Lord Justice Coulsfield ordered Taylor to do 200 hours of community service. Randall was fined £2,000.

At an earlier hearing at the High Court in Edinburgh, Mr Taylor, a maintenance engineer, told the judge: "I have completely forgiven her. She says she wishes this whole thing had never happened. I am just begging for leniency for my wife."

Passing sentence yesterday, the judge told Taylor and Randall: "I do feel able to regard this particular case as a result of a combination of infatuation, folly and wishful thinking." The entire case was "quite extraordinary, if not entirely unique".

Taylor, a mother of four, of Polmont, Stirlingshire, met Randall, of Grangemouth, while working at an hotel. They formed an adulterous relationship, but she later confessed the affair to her husband and he forgave her.

However, the court heard that she continued to cheat on her husband until December last year, when police received confidential information about the murder plot. Passing sentence, Lord Justice Coulsfield said he was prepared to accept there had never been any real threat to Mr Taylor's life.

Surrey fearful but helpless as BNP plans expansion

BY ANDREW PIERCE

THE British National Party, which won a by-election in Tower Hamlets, east London, last month, is planning to expand its operations by opening a new base in Reigate, Surrey.

MPs and council leaders are horrified at the prospect, but will be powerless to stop the BNP setting up shop. The London borough of Bexley has investigated every legal avenue to try to evict the party from its present headquarters in Welling, but without success.

Arthur Field, a BNP member, said: "We have no intention of leaving Welling. We are looking for additional premises to expand our operations into a new area. We do not anticipate any problems securing suitable accommodation. But we are not prepared to disclose which properties we are looking at."

The party is thought to be interested in Redhill, a relatively less prosperous part of the borough. It is proposing to put up candidates in the borough at next May's local elections.

After the party's unexpected by-election success there were a series of ugly confrontations between BNP supporters and anti-fascists in Tower Hamlets. Several BNP officials were remanded in custody.

The BNP's four-year tenure in Welling has been marked by several marches, demonstrations and attacks by anti-Nazi groups. Neighbours of the semi-detached building in Upper Wickham Lane, Welling, have endured their windows being smashed, businesses ruined and lives made a misery by the presence of the BNP. Now the people of Reigate and Banstead could suffer the same.

A spokesman for Bexley council said: "We would breathe a sigh of relief if the BNP was to move out of the borough, lock, stock and barrel. We have tried everything to get rid of them. It is not the nature of their business which causes the problem. It is their very presence."

Richard Bennett, leader of Reigate and Banstead borough council, said the matter had been given great thought. "Democracy is a delicate flower. People must have a right to express themselves and to have premises for their political parties. I personally find that what they stand for is abhorrent. We will be working with the police to ensure that no activities are carried out at the property which will lead to the violent scenes we have seen elsewhere. If they put up candidates I hope the people of Reigate will be heard at the ballot box."

One neighbour of the BNP in Welling, who did not wish to be named, said: "I have had a dead white swan thrown into my front garden by a passing car. Because the BNP keeps a low profile, a lot of protesters don't really know where it is, so they just attack any house in the street.

"All the council knew was that the applicant [for planning permission] had applied to turn the building into a bookshop and flat above. There was just a name for the applicant, so nobody knew who they were. The shop used to be a glazier's, so we all thought it would be nice to have a bookshop in the street."

Borough renamed, page 1

'Reclusive' guitarist wins case

BY A STAFF REPORTER

THE rock guitarist Jeff Beck was last night cleared of unfairly sacking Stephen Elgie, his personal assistant.

Max Craft, chairman of the industrial tribunal in Brighton, Sussex, said the panel agreed that Mr Elgie had resigned after the pair's personal relationship had broken down. He added that because Mr Elgie resigned there was no case to answer.

Mr Beck, 49, of Wadhurst, East Sussex, yesterday admitted to being a moody reclusive who found it difficult to get on with people. He claimed Mr Elgie, 46, of Ross-on-Wye, Hereford and Worcester, was an unhygienic, lazy thief who snored so loudly he could not hear the phone ringing when the musician called his home while touring America.

Ernest Chapman, Mr Beck's manager, said the musician was insecure with people he did not know and kept Mr Elgie on because it was "better the devil you know".

Mr Elgie said he was sacked when Mr Beck set up home with Sandra Cush, 28, a model, who demanded a "clean sweep" of staff.

Mr Beck told the hearing that Mr Elgie had turned his flat on the guitarist's estate into a "mouldy pigsty" which was so disgusting he had to hold his nose when he went in there. He also accused Mr Elgie of stealing wood.



John MacGregor, left, and Sir Wilfrid Newton announcing the Jubilee Line decision

Docklands put on Tube map

BY TIM JONES, TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

THE government yesterday approved one of the biggest construction projects of the decade, the £1.8 billion extension to London Underground's Jubilee Line.

John MacGregor, the transport secretary, said the start of construction was "excellent news for London and especially for London Docklands". Frank Dobson, Labour's spokesman for transport and London, said the government had given the project priority because it would help out the property speculators at Canary Wharf. He added: "Extending the Jubilee Line would not be the government's first priority if they really wanted to meet the real transport needs of real Londoners."

Months of uncertainty were brought to a end after a High Court decision to allow Olympia & York, developers of the Canary Wharf "second city" complex in London's Docklands, to come out of administration.

Work on the project, which during its peak construction phase is expected to provide jobs for more than 20,000 people, will begin almost immediately. Within 4½ years London commuters should be able to travel on the world's most modern metro system from Green Park to Stratford.

Sir Wilfrid Newton, chairman of London Transport, said: "The news is a shot in the arm for London. It will bring a new lifeline to south-east London and show the rest of the world that London is a city that means business."

Multiple rapist and killer jailed

AN AIRCRAFT technician was jailed yesterday for life for the "Little Red Riding Hood" rape and murder of Fiona Gallant, 18.

John Henry Bell was also given life sentences by a judge at Chester Crown Court for the rape and attempted murder of an Anglesey schoolgirl last year, and the rape of a 24-year-old woman in Stockport, Cheshire, in 1987.

Mr Justice Scott Baker told Bell: "You are a continuing danger to young women, and especially teenagers. On each of the counts on this indictment you will go to prison for life."

The jury acquitted Bell, 37, who stood impassively in the dock as he was sentenced, of raping a 16-year-old girl, who was abducted in Poynton, Cheshire, in early 1987. Bell, of Offerton, Stockport, had denied all the charges.

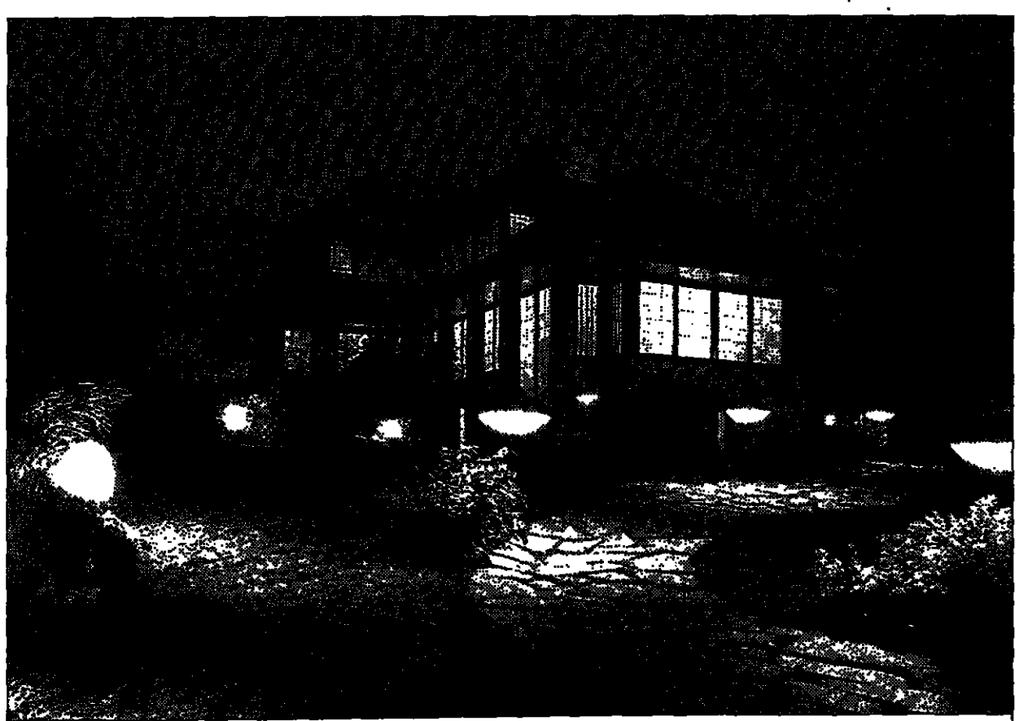
The judge said that three times Bell had lured unsuspecting young women into his vehicle by pretending it was broken down. "You took them each to a lonely place and raped them," he said.

"With two others you tried the same ploy but failed. Had you succeeded I have no doubt they would have met the same fate. When you had finished with Fiona Gallant you strangled her with a piece of twine."

The body of Miss Gallant was found off an embankment on the A12 near Colchester, Essex, in December 1987. She died after visiting her grandmother.

The judge said that nobody who had heard the schoolgirl victim of Bell's attack in Anglesey give evidence about her ordeal could have doubted her courage in giving evidence. Bell abducted her while on holiday in Anglesey, taking her to a lonely beach where he raped her and committed a serious sexual offence, before trying to strangle her.

The judge praised Essex police and Det Chief Inspector Clive Seal for their handling of the investigation.



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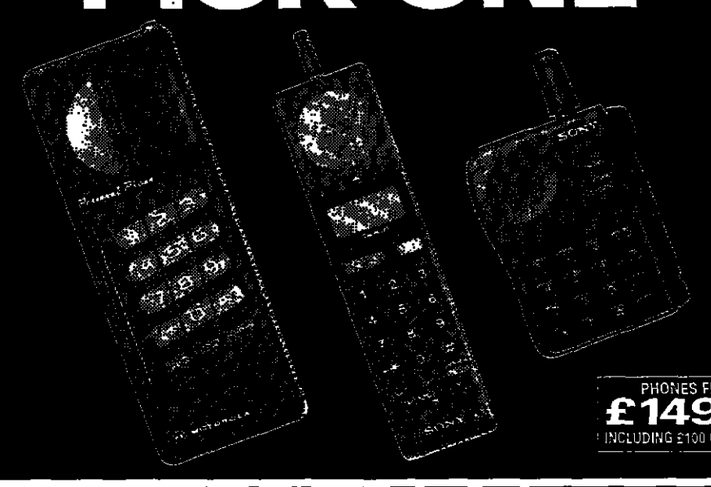


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Dispute brews over ruling on ale heads

BY IAN MURRAY

■ **Beer drinkers are being asked to lobby MPs and report pubs for giving short measures now pints can contain 5% froth**

BRITAIN'S real ale drinkers were angry yesterday after the government announced that a pint of beer could include 5 per cent of froth on the top. The decision, announced by Patrick McLoughlin, the trade minister, overturns an earlier government promise to ensure that pubs would serve a full pint of liquid in a glass slightly enlarged to contain a head.

"This short measure costs the British beer drinker £400 million a year," Roger Protz of the Campaign for Real Ale (Camra) said yesterday. "We beer drinkers are appalled. If I buy a dozen eggs in a shop I expect to find 12 eggs in the box, yet if I buy a pint I'm expected to accept 95 per cent of it and be happy."

He said Camra's 40,000 members were being asked to lobby MPs and report pubs giving short measure. "The British are notoriously shy about complaining, but we have got to do it," he said. "With the Budget next month likely to push up the price of a pint, we beer drinkers are now facing a double whammy."

The Brewers Society was relieved by the decision. "If we had been forced to comply then it would have pushed up the price of beer by between 9p and 7p a pint," Tim Hampson, its spokesman, said.

This was because of the expense of replacing all 20oz glasses with 22oz ones capable of holding the extra head and the cost of installing measured beer engines.

"There is no suggestion that people should be given less than a pint," Mr Hampson said. "If they want it then the head usually goes over the counter. We have issued guidance to the 65,000 landlords in the country who serve 28 million pints of beer a day between them that if anyone asks for a top-up because the head is too big then they should give it with good grace.

"The head is not made of anything different to beer after all. A lot of people like to drink their beer with it and think that unless it includes a bit of head it isn't a proper pint." Nicholas Ridley, whose family brewery in Chelmsford has been brewing for 150 years, said there used to be a north-south divide between the way people liked beer.

"In the north they tend to like a close-knit head while in the south they prefer it without. The beer is exactly the same but to put a thick head on it you need to serve it through a 'sparkler' which squirts the beer through a small hole under pressure to make it creamy.

"In the south they prefer it more bubbly but nowadays so many northerners are settling in the south that some pubs are fitting sparklers to keep their customers happy."

Jack Foster of the Federation brewery at Dunston, Tyne and Wear, was scornful of beer without a head. "A pint without a head looks like a pint which has had someone's greasy lips in it."

JAMES MORGAN



Tim Edwards of the Puckeridge hunt joins the campaign to promote the sport's benefits

Hunt begins for new supporters

BY JOHN YOUNG

ON the edge of a ploughed field, by a supermarket and a busy traffic roundabout, hunting enthusiasts yesterday launched a campaign to counter attacks on their ancient and cherished sport.

After years of defence tactics against saboteurs, the British Field Sports Society has taken the offensive by promoting hunting as a countryman's solution to the problem of foxes.

"There is nothing clandestine or elitist about us," a spokesman said yesterday. "We would like everyone to come along and join in tomorrow's meets." The season officially begins on Monday, but many hunts are starting early.

Some 2,500 campaign posters will appear beside roads across the country. "We want to use these posters to take our message to the public, which has been misled into believing that, if hunting were to go, foxes would live in some sort of paradise," Bill Andrewes, chairman of the society's Campaign for Hunting, said. The reality was that 200,000 foxes a year had to be controlled.

"We country people are all concerned at what we see as the very real danger that our mainly urban society should try to tell us how to run the countryside," James Barclay, master of the Fitzwilliam hunt, said.

"No-one wants to see all-out war declared on the fox. We are as pleased as the townsmen to see 'Charlie Fox' safely crossing the road in summer. But the realities of farming, wildlife and game conservation mean foxes must be controlled. That is the service we provide."

☐ William Fewings, master of the Quantock Staghounds, was yesterday granted permission by the High Court to challenge Somerset County Council's ban on deer hunting on its land.

Mr Fewings, of Quantock Farm, near Bridgwater, argued that the council's decision to prevent hunting over a crucial 140-acre strip at Over Stowey Customs Common conflicted with rights of access to the common.

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THE TIMES WORLD CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP



BY RAYMOND KEENE
CHESS CORRESPONDENT

GARRY Kasparov moved into a 3-0 lead against Nigel Short after winning the third game of his speed chess challenge at the Savoy Theatre, London.

Kasparov chose an unusual variation of the queen's gambit and after 19 moves had established a clear advantage on the queen's flank.

White: Nigel Short

Black: Garry Kasparov
Speed game (3)

Queen's gambit accepted

1	Nf3	d5
2	c4	e6
3	d4	Nf6
4	Nc3	dxc4
5	Qa4+	Nbd7
6	e4	a6
7	Bxc4	c6
8	Qd1	Be7
9	0-0	0-0
10	a4	b6
11	Bd3	Bb7
12	e5	Nd5
13	Nxd5	cxd5
14	Bd2	a5
15	Rc1	Nb8
16	Bb5	Na6
17	Qb3	Rc8
18	Rc3	Nc7
19	Bd3	Bb4
20	Bxh7+	Kxh7
21	Ng5+	Kg8
22	Rh3	Re8
23	Qf3	Qd7
24	Qh5	Kf8
25	Nh7+	Ke7
26	Bg5+	f6
27	Nxf6	Black resigns

The official book of the *Times* World Chess Championship, *Kasparov v Short 1993* (Batsford), is now available. Copies can be ordered from *The Times* at £7.99, including postage and packing. Credit card holders can order direct on 0937 541149 (Monday-Friday, 9am-5pm). Orders by post should go to *The Times*, Raymond Keene Offer, PO Box 11, Tadcaster, North Yorkshire LS24 9XA. The book includes notes and interviews taken from *The Times*'s exclusive access to Kasparov and Short during the championship.

Winning move, Weekend, page 18

Mephisto® CHESS COMPUTERS

THE TIMES checkmate

Last chance to win £1,000

Today is the last day that you can win Checkmate, the instant cash game that anyone can play, even if you are not a chess expert. All you have to do is check the positions on your Checkmate Card against those printed on the daily Checkmate Chess Board, marking the pieces off on the Checkmate Table as the positions on your card match those of the Checkmate Board. It's so simple to take part — and perhaps win £1,000.

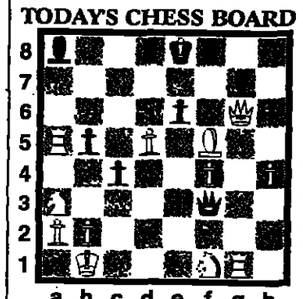
HOW TO PLAY

On your Checkmate Card there are 20 letter-number combinations — g6, h2, a5 and so on. These represent the positions on a standard chess board.

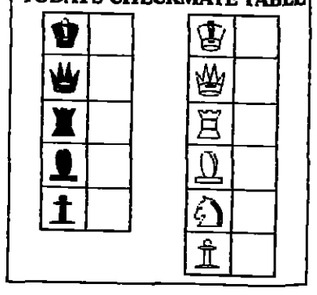
Compare the positions on your Checkmate Card against those on Today's Chess Board (right). If a combination on your card matches a chess piece on the Checkmate Chess Board mark off that piece in the Checkmate Table.

If you are able to mark off all the pieces in the Checkmate Table in any one day, in any order, you win or share in the daily prize of £1,000 cash.

TODAY'S CHESS BOARD



TODAY'S CHECKMATE TABLE



☐ **HOW TO CLAIM:** If you mark off all the pieces in the Checkmate Table you must claim your prize on the same day by phoning the **Checkmate claims line 091-567 0629 between 10am and 3.30pm.** Claims cannot be accepted outside these hours. You must have your Checkmate Card with you when you claim.

In the event of more than one valid claim for any prize, that prize will be divided equally among the winners. For General Rules, see the reverse of your Checkmate Card.

☐ **TODAY'S WINNER** will be announced in *The Times* on Monday. Yesterday's winner: B Sarano, Newport Gwent.

هكذا من الأصل

US-style warehouse clubs will cut prices by up to 30%

By Ian Murray

■ The first British cut-price warehouse club opens next month. Experts believe the impact will be felt up and down the land

BRITAIN'S cut-price warehouse clubs will be up to 30 per cent cheaper than high street shops when they open to a restricted public from the end of next month.

By the turn of the century there could be up to 90 of these American-style clubs across the country, forcing retailers in every sector to hold down prices and improve services in order to compete. Although only a relatively small number of people will be eligible for membership, and the clubs are expected to take no more than 2 per cent of all retail business, analysts are predicting that the warehouses' influence will be felt in every high street and shopping centre.

The first club will open on November 30 at Thurrock, Essex, in a warehouse the size of a football pitch. It will be run by the American company Costco. The British cash and carry chain Nurdin and Peacock opens the second one at Croydon, south London, on March 15 and, before the end of next year, there are likely to be others at Bushey, Hertfordshire, and in Liverpool, Manchester and Birmingham.

Customers at the warehouses will find themselves shopping in spartan conditions with a limited choice of about 3,500 lines, but they will all be major brand names backed by a full guarantee.

Just who is eligible to join remains a secret of the warehouse companies, although the American experience shows that high-income professional groups, civil servants and retailers are most likely to be invited to join. Costco has been busy approaching various groups for months and, since the High Court ruling clearing the way for its Thurrock development this week, applications have been pouring into the headquarters in Watford, Hertfordshire.

Paul Moulton, head of the European operation, was reticent about the size of the discount that would be available to club members buying in bulk at the warehouse. However, a survey by Goldman Sachs of Costco's American operation found that the warehouses there had a 9 per cent gross profit margin, and the bank understands that the company is aiming at a similar level here.

Gross profit margins in British food stores are about 25 per cent, in electrical goods shops nearer 30 per cent, and do-it-yourself stores have a 40 per cent mark-up. That means that items such as televisions or computers are likely to sell for about 20 per cent less than in the high street.

Goldman Sachs expects that there will ultimately be about 90 warehouse clubs in Britain, each serving a population of between 250,000 and 500,000. Philip Dorgan, of Goldman Sachs, said: "This must be excellent news for the customer. The warehouses keep their overheads down by providing no services at all, so the best way shops can compete with prices is to provide better service. That's not difficult in Britain because most shops here provide no service whatever at the moment."

Dr John Beaumont, chief executive of the Institute of Grocery Distributors, is less worried about the impact on the food trade than on the high street. He said: "A big chain store will have around 17,000 lines available, while the warehouse only has 3,500, covering everything from clothes and stereos to yoghurt. I don't believe the customer will get the kind of choice he wants. But nobody knows. It is all very exciting."

LAURIE SPARHAM



A no-frills Costco warehouse in Boston, Massachusetts, where goods are piled high and sold cheap. The 3,500 lines are all brand names

NEWS IN BRIEF

Daughter saved from bonfire

A 12-year-old girl was recovering yesterday after being pulled from a blazing bonfire by her mother.

Carla Norman was playing "dens" with two friends inside the 12 ft-high pile of wood in Plymouth when someone threw in a banger and it caught fire.

The two other girls managed to scramble clear but Carla was trapped. Linda Norman, 42, alerted by neighbours, braved the flames to grab her daughter's foot — "all I could see" — and pull her clear seconds before the bonfire collapsed.

Death charge

A Thames Valley police sergeant, Stephen William Hulland, 36, was sent for trial by magistrates at Newbury accused of causing the death of a 27-year-old man by dangerous driving while at the wheel of an armed response vehicle.

Dog roasted

Police are hunting a man who cut the head off a dog and spit-roasted the animal over a fire in front of a crowd of children on waste ground at Stratford, east London.

Soccer death

Rhian Davis, a 30-year-old mother from Clifynydd, Mid Glamorgan, collapsed and died while training with the Tongwynlais ladies' football team.

Double ordeal

A 33-year-old agoraphobic on the first trip outside his home for a year was knifed and beaten by a gang of youths in Bristol. They escaped with £5.

Family show

Paintings and sculptures by six generations of the Constable family are to go on show at Millfield School, Street, Somerset.

OFT looks into price fixing by solicitors

By Frances Gibb
Legal Correspondent

THE Office of Fair Trading (OFT) is investigating complaints by members of the public that some solicitors are fixing conveyancing prices at minimum levels.

Sir Bryan Carsberg, director-general of the office, told solicitors at their annual conference in Brighton yesterday that although the OFT had no power under the Restrictive Trade Practices Act 1971 to make such an investigation, there was a possibility that it had powers to do so under other legislation.

"One of the most serious competition offences is the establishment of pricing cartels ... with the objective of creating a position of market power to the detriment of the consumer," he said. Sir Bryan questioned whether consumers put such great emphasis on price. They also wanted high standards of service.

The OFT move comes amid widespread concern among many solicitors that some of their colleagues are offering conveyancing services so cheaply that they are jeopardising quality.

Rodger Pannone, president of the Law Society, gave a warning in his opening speech on Thursday about the dangers of price-cutting by solicitors, and there have been calls in recent months, resisted by the Law Society, to return to set or scale fees for conveyancing work.

The latest research by the Law Society has found that on a £60,000 house, one in ten solicitors charged less than £200 (excluding VAT and disbursements) and 38 per cent less than £250.

Walter Merricks, assistant secretary general at the Law Society, said the society did not condone the fixing of minimum prices.

Property, Weekend page 10



The famous White Horse in the picture postcard village of Chilham, Kent is typical of the beautiful country pubs to be found in the Wayside Inns collection.

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Welcome end to a hard road

Credo

Christina Rees

If the measure to allow women to be ordained priests in the Church of England was a human marathon runner, then last week he (or she) "hit the wall". The phrase describes the agonising feelings that come about three-quarters of the way through the course, when the body has depleted all its reserves. From that point on the race is run on willpower and discipline.

When, nearly a year ago, General Synod voted to allow women priests, a certain delay was expected. The procedure was well known, the measure having to wend its tedious, but necessary, way through the ecclesiastical committee of parliament, the House of Commons and the House of Lords before gaining the Royal Assent.

Few expected the announcement last month that the Church Society, a conservative evangelical group within the Church of England, would appeal to the High Court to disallow synod's vote on the grounds that it was not competent to decide upon such matters. Last week the application was dismissed, the judges ruling that the General Synod did indeed have the power and the right to decide upon "all things touching the Church of England".

The hearing, spread over three days, was conducted in a very unemotional, detached manner. All the words spoken by the judges and those involved contrasted sharply with the experiences of the women whose future lay in their hands. During those three days, women deacons and many of their supporters "hit the wall", suffering the anguish of coming so far only to be hit by the uncertainty brought about by the 11th hour challenge.

Yesterday, the House of Commons debated the measure and gave it its support. On Tuesday, the upper house is expected to do the same. Now there is a feeling of numbness, of exhaustion at the time and energy spent on endless debates, arguments, doubts, hopes and expectations. The Church, by an overwhelming majority, has welcomed the anticipation of women priests, and now it needs to stop. It needs to stop the second guessing, which is so debilitating and demoralising, and with humility and charity declare an armistice and get on with its real work.

There is much in the Church's tradition about what Christians are enjoined to do, in which internecine strife plays no part at all. The New Testament shows a God who went to the ultimate length to communicate love, acceptance, forgiveness and new life. As a church, we have spent enough time considering this issue, and the way ahead seems clear, if still unacceptable to some.

Many years of prayerful and obedient debate produced the result last November, and now the measure has been thoroughly weighed in the balance and found not wanting. Let there be no more obstacles put in its way.

To all who have been caught up in the fray, I recommend a time of peace and quiet. The One who said: "Come to me all who labour and are heavy laden", still speaks to everyone who will listen, whatever their view.

☐ *Christina Rees is a member of the General Synod of the Church of England*

MPs back women priests 215-21

By Alice Thomson, Jonathan Prynn and Robert Morgan



Tony Benn, right, accused John Gummer and others of prejudice against women

CAMPAIGNERS for the ordination of women priests in the Church of England cleared their last big hurdle with an overwhelming victory in the House of Commons yesterday. On a free vote, the Commons backed the Priests (Ordination of Women) Measure by 215 votes to 21.

If, as is almost certain, the House of Lords approves the measure next Tuesday, the issue will return to the General Synod for formal endorsement next February with the the first women priests expected to be ordained next April. MPs also backed, by 195 votes to 19, plans for compensation for priests who feel they have to leave the Church on doctrinal grounds.

During an impassioned debate, opponents of the measure made clear that they were not anti-women and their objections were based on doctrinal grounds.

John Gummer, the environment minister and passionate opponent of the proposals, said that if the measure were passed some members of the Church, like him, would feel that they had been excluded from the Church of England. Mr Gummer, the son of a clergyman and a former member of the General Synod, said that he was agnostic about the ordination of women, but claimed that the General Synod had no right to take a unilateral decision. Mr Gummer, speaking from the back benches, said that many people would be forced out of the church. He accused the Archbishop of York, Dr John Habgood, of displaying arrogance in saying that hundreds of his predecessors were wrong and he was right. "I find that difficult to accept," he said.

The sober and occasionally intense atmosphere that marked the opening of the debate was broken by a scathing speech from Tony Benn, the MP for Chesterfield, who mocked the "absolutely invalid" arguments of the measure's opponents. He said Mr Gummer's speech "must have been made hundreds of times over many hundreds of years" against other proposed reforms, such as the admission of Jews and Roman Catholics to Parliament.

"At the heart of this debate, however much it is dressed up in ecclesiastical terms, is a prejudice against women — that they are not human beings," Mr Benn said. The debate exposed the "absurdity" of the Church of England as the established church of the state.

He poured scorn on the proposal to provide compensation to male priests who objected to women ordination. It would have been like compensating him when Margaret Beckett had been elected deputy leader of the Labour party.

Simon Hughes, Liberal Democrat MP for Southwark and Bermondsey and a former member of the Synod, said: "If we support this measure it will be a great day of liberation, not just for women in the Church, not just for the Church, not just for the nation, but for the cause which all Christians are here to serve."

Ann Widdecombe, junior employment minister, who has now joined the Roman Catholic Church because of her opposition to women priests, said that women had a valid but different role from men in the church.

"The Queen, after all, is the head of the Church of England and there are women deacons," she said. She also did not see any reason why there should not be women as Catholic papal nuncios.

But in an emotive speech she said that if women were allowed to give the sacrament, "and be a representative of Christ then you might as well have males representing the Virgin Mary in nativity plays".

Miss Widdecombe, who was wearing a crucifix, said she had felt "driven out" when she left to join Catholicism, but she denied bitterness towards the Church of England.

"It is utter grief and utter anger — and utter disbelief at what's been going on, that we've not only managed to consecrate bishops who don't believe in the Resurrection and the virgin birth, but we now actually can't even get our moral message across."

☐ Those voting against women's ordination were:
David Atkinson (C Bournemouth E); Andrew Bowden (C Brighton Kemptown); John Carlisle (C Luton N); Paul Channon (C Southend W); Patrick Cormack (C Staffordshire S); John Gummer (C Suffolk Coastal); Andrew Hunter (C Basingstoke); Robert Jones (C Hertfordshire W); Dame Elaine Kellett-Bowman (C Lancaster); Timothy Kirkhope (C Leeds NE); Edward Leigh (C Gainsborough & Horncastle); Piers Merchant (C Beckenham); Anthony Nelson (C Chichester); Sir Michael Neubert (C Romford); The Rev Ian Paisley (DUP Antrim N); Peter Robinson (DUP Belfast E); William Ross (UUP Londonderry E); Nigel Waterson (C Eastbourne); Ann Widdecombe (C Maidstone); Sir Jerry Wiggin (C Weston-super-Mare); Ann Winterton (C Congleton).

Letters, page 17
At Your Service Weekend, page 11

Queen urges respect for the Red Cross

By Alan Hamilton

THE Queen yesterday called on those involved in armed conflicts to recognise the impartiality and independence of the Red Cross and its counterpart in the Islamic world, the Red Crescent.

Addressing a Birmingham conference of the organisations, she deplored the disregard for the Geneva conventions that had led to the deaths of dedicated workers. The sanctity of the movement's emblems, and the freedom of its workers to operate must be respected. The Queen, who did not name specific cases, was clearly referring to the recent deaths of humanitarian workers in former Yugoslavia and Africa. Since 1985 the movement has lost 45 workers on active service.

"Within this movement, you have no truck with that depressing and cynical phrase 'compassion fatigue'," the Queen told 500 delegates from 160 countries. "On the contrary, the human and material resources you devote to the relief of hardship grows greater each year."

Letters, page 17

THE TIMES
DILLONS DEBATE

Will women priests split the Church?



THE Bishop of Oxford, the Rt Rev Richard Harries, and Karen Armstrong, for seven years a Roman Catholic nun, and author of the controversial new book *The End of Silence, Women and Priesthood*, will speak in support of women priests in this important debate. Challenging them will be Ann Widdecombe, MP, and Father Martin Flatman, vicar of Cowley St John, Oxford, both of whom are leading critics of the decision to ordain women priests.

The debate takes place on Monday, November 8 at 7.30pm, at the Institute of Education, 20 Bedford Way, London WC1. Times readers can obtain tickets (£10, concessions £5) either by completing the coupon below, calling at Dillons the Bookstore, 82 Gower Street, London WC1, or telephoning Dillons on 071-915 6612 (24 hours).

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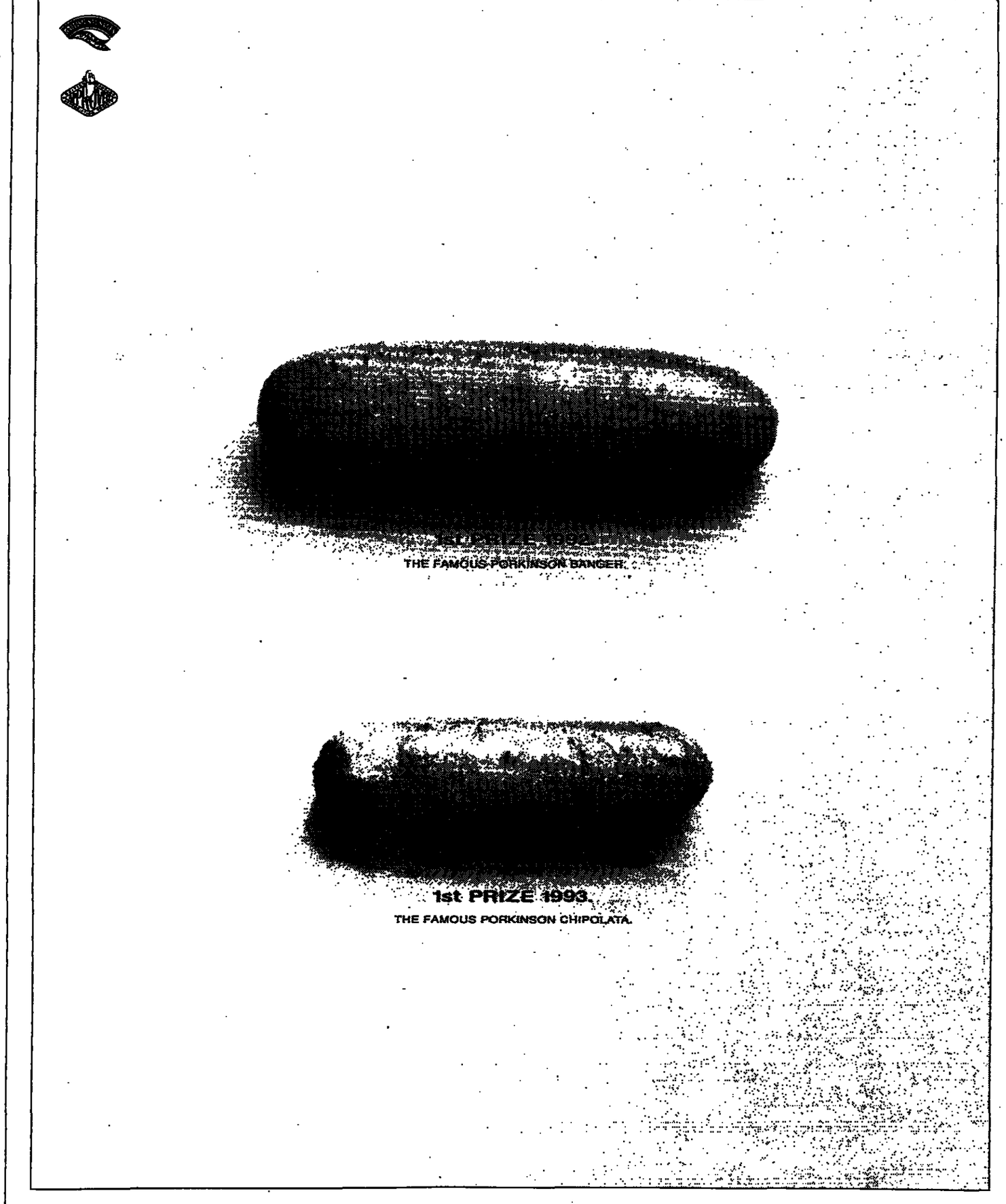
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For two years running, the British Sausage Appreciation Society has chosen a Porkinson for its Best Branded Sausage Award. Last year it was the Banger. This year it's the smaller, but still perfectly filled Chipolata. So no, it's not a question of size. It's simply a matter of taste.

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This will put paid to the old theory, "you can't indulge in a bit of real driving if you're sitting in the lap of luxury."

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Automatic air conditioning? Yes. Cruise control? Yes. Leather interior? Naturally. A nine speaker stereo system with CD auto-changer? Yes. Five way electronic seat adjustment? Of course

In fact, the GS300 has so much as standard, there are only two optional extras.

Pretty much the reverse of most competing luxury cars, wouldn't you say? (It even has the best 3 year 60,000 mile manufacturer's warranty in its class.)

And then there's the driving. Its 6 cylinder, 3 litre, 24 valve, fuel injected engine produces over 200 bhp.

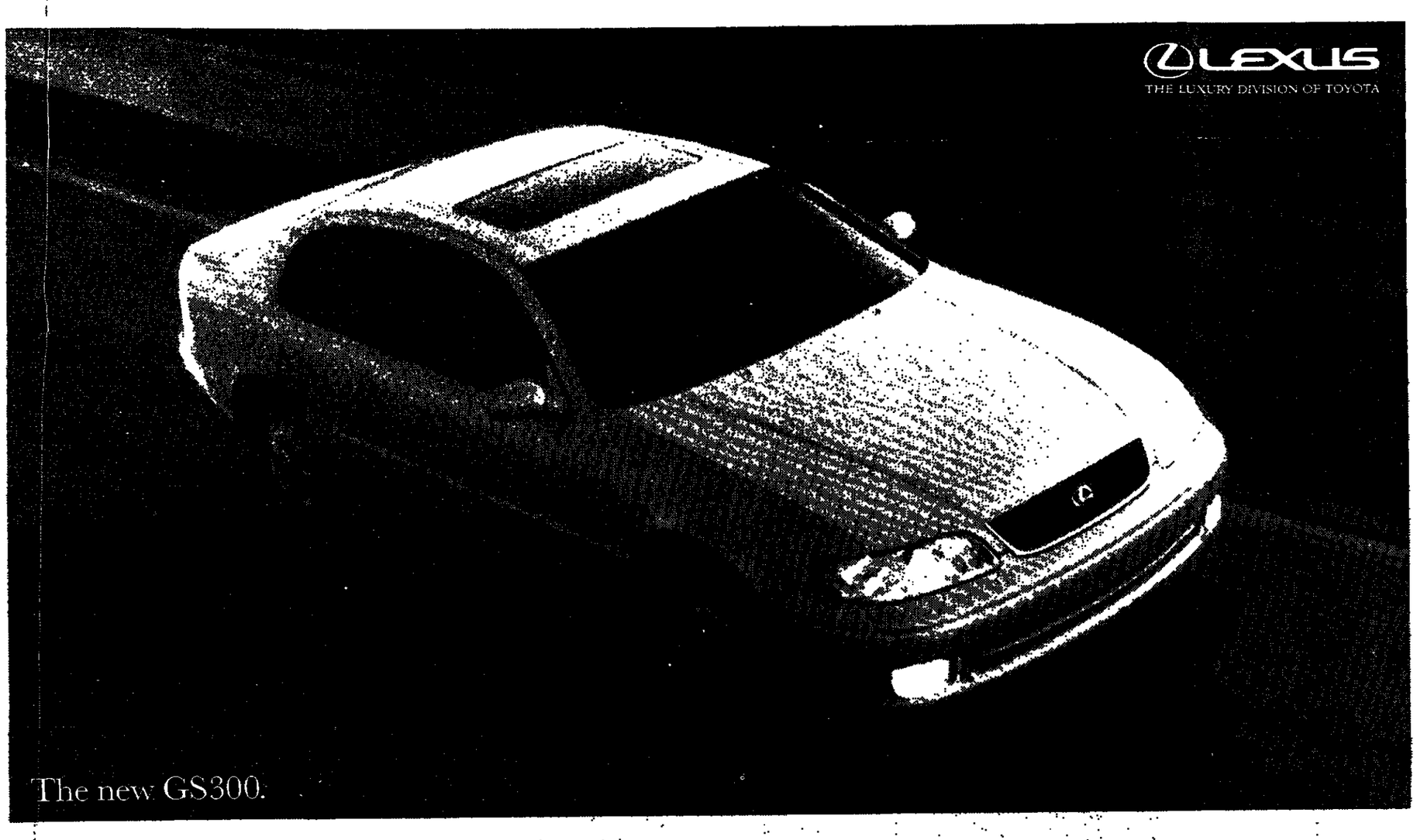
It has stabiliser bars to check body roll. (Incidentally, specially sculptured seats check the other kind of body roll.)

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Prime minister and Delors offer European summit different visions of economic future

EC is losing touch with its citizens, says Major

BY PHILIP WEBSTER AND GEORGE BROCK

JOHN Major called yesterday for cuts in European interest rates as he criticised the European Community for failing to produce policies to boost growth and to reduce unemployment.

The prime minister urged the EC to abandon its more ambitious designs and to concentrate on issues relevant to its people. Mr Major said that at times in recent years the EC may have moved too far ahead of public opinion. "As a result we have not carried people fully with us. But as far as growth and unemployment are concerned, we are lagging behind them. That is what they are most worried about."

However, Jacques Delors, president of the European Commission, said that EC governments should boost their economies while sticking to the targets that the Maastricht treaty lays down for monetary union. M Delors said it was "a necessity to stimulate investment without undermining adjustment policies in each country".

M Delors admitted that the "majority" of EC economies were no longer converging towards monetary union but diverging, and said that it was time to stop the drift with bold initiatives. His presentation included several angry asides at the tepid reaction which EC finance ministers have given to his ideas for creating growth and jobs. Britain, he said, was "coming out of recession". The ministers will consider the draft of M Delors's economic "white paper" next month, ahead of its unveiling at the next EC summit in December.

In a strikingly personal passage of his speech to the summit, Mr Major underlined his European credentials by stating that, since the last summit in Copenhagen in June, he had "put my government's future on the line to secure the ratification of the Maastricht treaty".

He added: "We have to show our peoples that we are collectively addressing their needs. We need their consent and we need their support. And their highest need is to see all Europe moving out of recession."

The EC's share of world markets had declined by about a fifth since 1980, he added. If they had been as good at creating jobs as other industrial nations over the same period, there would be nine million more people at work in the Community today.

As expected, Mr Major and other leaders succeeded in sending for reappraisal the sweeping proposals outlined by M Delors to the council of finance ministers.

M Delors recently has altered his previously lukewarm support for a trade deal and has begun to signal to France that it is vital to restart economic growth. Britain fears that his programme will make Europe less, rather than more, competitive.



Delors: admitted drift from monetary union

Kohl takes lead, page 1
Leading article, page 17



Helmut Kohl, the German chancellor, arriving at the EC summit in Brussels in a Belgian police car yesterday after fog grounded his flight

Germans carry off the central bank plum

BY OUR FOREIGN STAFF

BRITAIN has lost the fight to win the prestigious new European central bank for London.

However, a consolation prize of an important new drugs agency may bring thousands of jobs to the country. The European Medicines Evaluation Agency (EMEA), which will register new pharmaceuticals in London on behalf of the EC, was described as very good news. "Three hundred new jobs will be directly created, with possibly thousands more indirectly," a government spokesman said.

As expected, Frankfurt won the plum award in a carve-up of new EC institutions yesterday at the Brussels summit. Britain had been bidding for the central bank, the medicines agency and the plant breeders' rights office.

However, British government officials knew there was no real chance of London getting the European Monetary Institute (and future European central bank). Other member states were determined that a government with no commitment to the goal of a single currency should not be responsible for its introduction by 1999. Nevertheless, Mr Major went in to bat in Brussels, insisting that London remained the financial hub of Europe and was the natural home of the organisation. The institute will start work on January 1, clearing the way for EC nations to seek economic convergence.

Britain's second-best prize of the drugs agency is being touted as a valuable one. "These will be quality jobs in high-technology manufacturing. All the big pharmaceutical companies wanted this headquarters to be in London, and the health secretary, Virginia Bottomley, has worked long and hard for this," a government official said. In fact, the medicines agency was not easily netted by the prime minister.

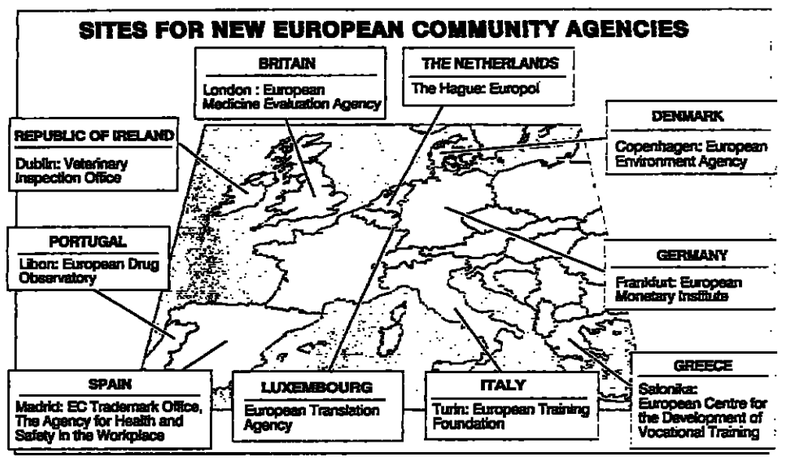
There were heated exchanges at the summit table with the Spanish prime minister, Felipe González, who wanted the agency to go to Barcelona.

But with other member states falling into line behind Britain, Spain had to settle for the new Community trade marks office to be established in Madrid — with the added bonus of a health and safety administration office also to go to Spain.

Dublin gets a new joint veterinary and plant breeders' rights office, Lisbon gets a drug observatory, and Copenhagen gets the new European environmental agency.

Europol, the data-gathering EC body which will co-ordinate new cross-border police co-operation under the Maastricht treaty, goes to The Hague.

The summit was called principally to launch the European Union, which comes into effect on Monday.



Gaullist leader voices French resentment against Britain

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN PARIS

FRENCH frustration over Britain's attitude to the European Community and world trade boiled over yesterday with a personal attack on John Major by Alain Juppé, the foreign minister.

"John Major, who trembles before the ex-Iron Lady Maggie Thatcher, cannot find any better way of stiffening his courage than insulting our peasant farmers and the French in general," M Juppé said.

The minister, who is also secretary-general of the ruling Gaullist party, was explaining to his Paris constituents why France must be prepared to stand together in the face of world opprobrium over its refusal to accept the terms of the new General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (Gatt). The government and opposition Socialist party are depicting the accord as an Anglo-Saxon conspiracy to destroy French agriculture. Mr Major has angered President Mitterrand and Edouard Balladur, the prime minister, with his support for the American position in the Gatt talks and caused special perplexity this month when he said that Britain's goal was to see the EC evolve into a loose free-trade zone — the antithesis of the federal union which France desires.

"We must be aware that this double refusal will expose us to criticism and attack," M Juppé wrote in his constituency newsletter. "Faced with these assaults, we must maintain our national unity."

M Juppé's call was a response to growing scepticism over the wisdom of France's solitary defiance of the world. ☐ New York: Britain and France have launched their first formal rearguard action to preserve their permanent seats on the United Nations Security Council (James Bone writes).

They have joined Germany, which aspires to join the council, to submit a draft resolution on council changes to the president of the General Assembly. The draft proposes the creation of a working group open to all UN members on the question of the composition of the 15-nation council. But it pointedly directs the group to study enlarging the council, rather than reform, which could encompass removing some of the permanent members. The draft will now be studied by a special contact group which is looking at changes to the security council.

The proposal is the first shot across the bows of those who would like to unseat Britain and France.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Pentagon to review nuclear policy

Washington: The Pentagon has announced what Les Aspin, the defence secretary, called the most comprehensive review of America's nuclear weapons policies ever undertaken (Martin Fletcher writes).

It will reassess the principle of "mutually assured destruction" that underpinned US nuclear strategy throughout the Cold War and will decide whether the US nuclear arsenal should remain targeted on specific sites in the former Soviet Union or be targeted elsewhere; how much of the arsenal should be kept on alert; whether the US should adopt a policy of "no first use" of nuclear weapons in a conventional conflict; and whether the force of long-range missiles, submarines and bombers is correctly structured to meet emerging threats.

Burundi flight

Geneva: The UN says more than half a million people have fled Burundi since the coup attempt last week in which President Ndadaye and a third of his cabinet were killed. The coup failed when the country's generals backed the government. *(Reuter)*

Media court

Moscow: President Yeltsin ordered a special court to be set up to ensure the independence of the press and equal access to the media for all candidates in Russia's first post-Communist parliamentary elections, scheduled to be held in six weeks. *(Reuter)*

Lost child plea

Athens: The British embassy here has formally asked the Greek authorities to extend their investigation into the sale of children to include the case of Ben Needham, the missing Sheffield boy who disappeared in July 1991 on the eastern Aegean island of Kos.

Five charged

Stockholm: Four Russians and a Polish immigrant have been charged with trying to kidnap Peter Wallenberg, a Swedish businessman. The men were also charged with forgery and smuggling military equipment in a plot to extort £6.5 million. *(AP)*

Royal rooms

Florence: The Royal Apartments of the Pitti Palace are open to the public after seven years of restoration work. Organisers of the new, permanent exhibition believe they have accurately recreated the furnishing and decorations of the 14 rooms as they were in 1911.

Leader at front

Tbilisi: Eduard Shevardnadze, the Georgian leader, flew to Kutaisi, the main city in the west of the country, after his troops said they had won back ground lost to rebels loyal to Zviad Gamsakhurdia, the ousted president. *(Reuter)*

Grand canyon

Tucson: A team from the University of Arizona that mounted the first scientific exploration of Tibet's Namche Barwa canyon said that, with a maximum depth of 19,386ft, it sets a world record. Arizona's Grand Canyon is 4,682ft deep. *(AP)*



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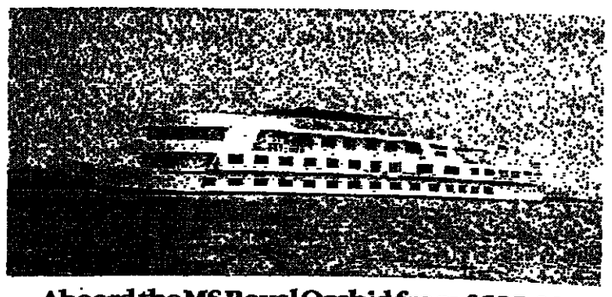
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Quebec's English-speakers take fright at plan for independence referendum

Opposition sets 1995 as target date for break-up of Canada

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN MONTREAL

THE Bloc Québécois, the party likely to form the official opposition in Canada's new parliament, will work to bring about independence for Quebec, and thus the break-up of Canada, "as soon as possible", according to Lucien Bouchard, the party's leader.

"Federalism has not worked for the past 20 or 30 years," Mr Bouchard said in an interview. He hopes to achieve self-rule for French-speaking Quebec by 1995. "There is a profound need for change ... the choice is between the status quo, with its inefficiencies and iniquities, a social and economic quagmire, or sovereignty," he said.

Last Monday Canadian voters gave Jean Chrétien's Liberals a majority and turned the Bloc Québécois into the opposition.

The next stage of the secession process, according to Mr Bouchard, is for the Parti Québécois, the provincial separatist movement under the fiery Jacques Parizeau, to win next year's provincial elections in Quebec and hold a referendum on sovereignty in 1995.

A survey released on Thursday indicated that more than half the English-speaking citizens of Montreal (where 70 per cent of the Anglophones reside) would abandon an independent Quebec. Only 30 per cent said they would stay.

"We need them," Mr Bouchard said. "The English community has been very important. We need to blend the energy and resources of the two communities."

This is precisely the language traditionally used by Canadian federalists in their efforts to convince separatist Quebeckers to stay within the national fold. The irony does not seem to disturb Mr Bouchard, a former Conservative cabinet minister and henchman of Brian Mulroney, the former prime minister. He defected in 1990 to set up the Bloc Québécois and immediately earned an indelible reputation for opportunism.

Mr Mulroney, who left office to make way for the *disastrous Kim Campbell* last June, is reported to have issued instructions to his family that if Mr Bouchard appears at his funeral he is to be ejected.

Mr Bouchard, 54, is more a fixer than a rebel. "It is not possible to pave the road to sovereignty by raising hell," he said, having raised copious rhetorical hell in the election. His rhetoric is now about "equity". His role, he says, is to prepare Canada for Quebec's independence.

This softer approach may *reflect a knowledge of the wide* gap between the nationalist inclinations of French-speaking Quebeckers and what they will tolerate in reality. Throughout Canada's history, French Quebeckers have threatened to secede, but when it comes to a final vote, as in 1980, they draw back.



Lucien Bouchard, the Bloc Québécois leader, says federalism has not worked for 20 years and Canadians need to be prepared for Quebec's coming sovereignty

Jews riot after masked Arabs kidnap settler

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN RAMALLAH, WEST BANK

SCORES of irate Jewish settlers went on the rampage outside this Palestinian town yesterday after masked Arab gunmen attacked and abducted a resident from the nearby settlement of Bet El.

Israeli security forces launched a massive hunt for Haim Mizrahi, who was apparently stabbed at an Arab poultry farm where he went to buy eggs. Armed settlers blocked a highway, and set fire to two Arab cars and a building in the nearby Palestinian refugee camp of Jalazoun.

"Settlers' blood is cheap," said Pinhas Wallerstein, a local Jewish leader. "We are now second-class citizens. They [the Arabs] feel, why not carry out attacks? If it is done in Judea and Samaria [the biblical names for the West Bank], it is not important."

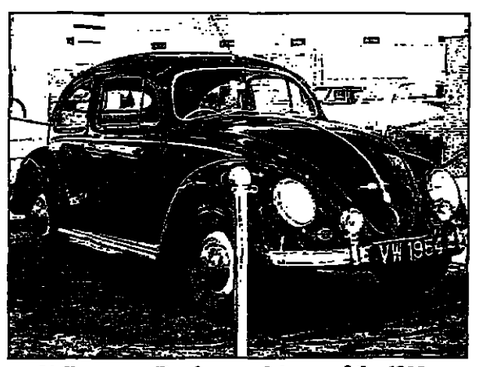
No group claimed responsibility for the attack, although it was widely assumed to be the work of Hamas, one of the radical groups opposed to the peace accord between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

On Sunday the Hamas organisation abducted and murdered two soldiers in the Gaza Strip, and vowed in a leaflet issued afterwards "to continue to crush Jewish skulls" in an attempt to torpedo the peace accord.

Yesterday's attack is bound to provoke further retaliation by the settlers, who fear that their security will be undermined when the occupied territories are transferred to Palestinian rule and security over Arab areas comes under the control of Palestinian police. They are also concerned that the government of Yitzhak Rabin, the prime minister, is secretly planning to dismantle some settlements, particularly those near large Arab centres.

In an interview published yesterday, Shimon Shetreet, the economics and planning minister, said: "If there are settlements in densely populated Arab areas, I don't think we can say that in the permanent solution it is in our interest to keep them."

☐ **London:** The Foreign Office said yesterday that it had granted a PLO request to give official status to its London office, including permission to fly the Palestinian flag.



Volkswagen Beetle: people's car of the 1930s

Lights change to red for city of Volkswagen

FROM ROGER BOYES IN WOLFSBURG

THE locals who file into Mario's café for a beer and a chat are sleepy and easily irritated, like bleary-eyed boxing fans whose favourite has been pummelled yet again in a prize fight.

The mood is similar throughout Wolfsburg, the town that lives and breathes Volkswagen. The traditionally gentle patronage of the carmaker has given way to the no-nonsense brutalism associated with Detroit managers.

Either Volkswagen workers accepted a shorter working week (four days, 28.8 hours), 20 per cent lower wages and cuts in benefits, or they would be faced with 30,000 redundancies. Nobody has ever spoken to VW employees in this way before, and the whole idea of less work and less pay is close to revolutionary for German industry. Since March, when Volkswagen and General Motors began a slanging match over claims of industrial espionage, there has been a feeling that nothing can go right for Wolfsburg. Now German politicians are worrying that the sense of malaise will spread from Wolfsburg throughout the country. All the great icons of the German economic miracle are in trouble. Lufthansa, deep in the red, expects domestic passengers to pick up a sandwich in lieu of lunch, the once proud railway service is scrapping its restaurant cars and Mercedes is building a *small* car. To add to the hurt, Helmut Kohl, the German chancellor, has told his countrymen they are simply not working hard enough. But of all these German bastions, the greatest and most vulnerable is surely Volkswagen, the People's Car of the 1930s. The Wolfsburg plant was set up in 1938, and since then the one-horse village has become a one-company town of 150,000 people. More than 40 per cent of them work at the factory; the rest, like Mario, are dependent in some way on the car firm.

Mario served his apprenticeship, saved money, and, with the help of a company loan, set up his small café. Volkswagen began to resemble a social welfare system. A job with Volkswagen was a job for life.

That has become the nub of the problem. The old patriarchal car companies of Europe are not lean or fit enough to fight off the Japanese competition. Ferdinand Piech wanted to change all that. He took over the running of Volkswagen in January and immediately announced that Enemy Number One was Japan. Average labour costs were a hefty DM46 (£18) an hour. Since German engineering was no longer enough to win the battle with Japan, the only way forward was to cut production costs. First he talked about more short-time work — 23,000 out of 59,000 Wolfsburg workers are on short time — but in the Volkswagen culture this was a rather mild process and many were laid off on 90 per cent of their last salary until they reach retirement age. That is what Herr Kohl meant when he said that Germany was becoming a leisure park.



Porsche: one of the Beetle's inventors

Dr Piech has, as they say locally, petrol in his blood. His grandfather, Ferdinand Porsche, was one of the inventors of the Beetle. Dr Piech is committed to turning round the company within a year, but this could have a calamitous effect on Wolfsburg. If Volkswagen sinks into the mud, so does this model new town.

In Association with IDEAL HOME

Only 2 weeks left to take advantage of Nationwide's great mortgage offer.

Save up to £10,000 with household names

At Nationwide, we know that when you move into your new home, the first thing you'll probably want to do is make it more homely. That's why we've come up with a great package to help you do just that. If you apply for any Nationwide mortgage between now and November 13th you will receive a voucher booklet with up to £10,000 worth of discounts with a wide range of top name stores and products, providing you complete on your mortgage before the end of April of next year. For example there are huge savings on kitchens, baths, showers, tiling and paints at Do It All; two months' free rental on selected items at Radio Rentals; huge discounts on curtains and soft furnishings at Mostyns; 10% off carpets at Carpetland; at least £600 worth of savings at Sharps Bedrooms and many, many more. All in all it could add up to £10,000 worth of savings in and around the home. Just call into any Nationwide branch where the staff will be happy to discuss a mortgage to fit your needs. It's good to know there's someone to lend a hand when you really need it.

Nationwide

To qualify for the discount vouchers, a mortgage application must be made by 13 November 1993, and the mortgage completed by 30 April 1994. All mortgages are subject to appraisal of an applicant's financial standing and valuation of the property. Security over your property and in some cases over a suitable life policy will be required. Mortgage loans are not available to persons under 18 years of age. All loans for wholly or partial business purposes do not qualify for this offer. Nationwide Building Society and Nationwide Estate Agents are Appointed Representatives of Guardian Royal Exchange marketing group (members of which are Members of Lautro and IMRO) only for the purposes of advising on and selling life assurance, pension, unit trust and personal equity plan products issued by Guardian Royal Exchange. Nationwide Estate Agents is a licensed credit broker. Written quotations available on request from Nationwide Building Society Head Office, Nationwide House, Pipers Way, Swindon L, SN38 1NW. Nationwide is a member of the Building Societies Ombudsmen Scheme, and conforms to the Code of Banking Practice.

YOUR HOME IS AT RISK IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON A MORTGAGE OR OTHER LOAN SECURED ON IT.

Angola town's truce comes too late to lift pall of suffering

FROM SAM KILEY IN CUITO

■ The stench of death fills the hospital in Cuito, a once charming town where half the population has been killed. Even the besieging Unita feels the madness must end

ONCE a town of Portuguese charm, set off by palms and flaming lilies, Cuito is now a scene of staggering destruction.

Thousands of bombs and shells have destroyed most of the buildings and half the people during nine months of siege by the Union for the Total Independence of Angola (Unita) in this provincial Angolan capital. Lime trees lining the boulevards have been gnawed into stumps by bullets. Soldiers from Unita occupy most of the city, apart from a small enclave in the centre still held by the government. All civilians in the Unita districts were moved out for their own safety.

Yesterday the guerrillas stood with government soldiers in an uneasy ceasefire to allow the United Nations to deliver food to the 35,000 survivors of the months of shelling, bombing and starvation. The ceasefire, offered by Jonas Savimbi, Unita's leader, came too late for 30,000 civilians believed to have perished.

Whatever food gets into the city will be too late for most of the men lying on the floor of an old primary school which serves as Cuito's only hospital. Many of them have had limbs amputated without anaesthetic. Fifty out of 1,000 patients, including almost all amputees, have died in the last two days as a result of gangrene. The stench of live people rotting fills the air of the hospital like poisonous smog. There are no antibiotics and no trained medical staff in the hospital. "We have 36 nurses, but they have no education. Our three doctors have a few years' training between them," said Abel Abrao, an Angolan journalist.

Yesterday Elizette Geodoro, 29, the city's only doctor, begged the international community to save those still alive in Cuito. Every day about five children die in a small clinic she runs using medical supplies dropped by parachute. "This has been a terrible experience. I hope I never have to see this again," Dr Geodoro said, in a room filled with quietly whimpering children. The youngsters are in the last stages of starvation — when their bodies no longer have enough protein to absorb liquid and their lower limbs balloon until the skin splits.



Savimbi: election loss sparked new fighting

"There is only one solution in Angola, and that is that we should talk," said Brigadier Jorge Diamantino, a local Unita commander. "This has all been very, very mad. These are all my people. My sister even lives on the other side," he said.

Cuito went 100 per cent to Unita in last year's elections during a 16-months pause in the 18-year civil war. But Dr Savimbi lost the elections as a whole and took his men back to the bush. The government responded by wiping out his people in most of the cities. Since then Angola has been dragged into an abyss.

Pretoria general pledges army neutrality



Soldiers of the South African Defence Force on parade in Pretoria yesterday as General Kat Liebenberg handed command of the SADF to General Georg Meiring, saying the force was the only institution that could protect a new constitution (Our Foreign Staff writes). "This defence force does not belong to the National Party, the Conservative Party or any party," he said. The Freedom Alliance, a coalition of white right-wingers and black homeland leaders, has appealed for more time to settle its differences with the other groups in the constitutional talks. A series of meetings between the African National Congress and the government and between each of them and the Freedom Alliance has improved the possibility of completing an agreement within the multi-party forum which the alliance is boycotting. The ANC believes the alliance members have not been able to agree among themselves what their actual demands are. China announced yesterday that it would resume official trade and economic ties with South Africa, suspended since July 1960.

A child's coat. A child's life.



Your old coat could save a life in Bosnia

Now it's not just bombs and bullets that are killing people in Bosnia. It's the cold.

Oxfam has just launched its Cold Front Appeal, for warm coats and jumpers to send to people in Bosnia, Serbia, Albania, Iraq, Afghanistan and the former Soviet Union.

Millions of people there have a bitter winter ahead. Battered by war, they face temperatures of -20°C without the clothing and shelter they need. Thousands – especially children – could freeze to death.

You can help. Oxfam's asking for your old, warm, wearable clothing: **children's coats and jumpers, and adult coats.** Take them to any Oxfam shop over the next two weeks, and we'll get them where they're needed – fast.

So please, give Oxfam that jumper your child's grown out of, or that coat you never liked. It could save a life.

Oxfam's Cold Front Appeal
Bosnia ■ Serbia ■ Albania ■ Afghanistan ■ Former Soviet Union ■ Iraq

OXFAM
Working for a Fairer World

Oxfam is a Registered Charity No 202918

Storming of mosque provokes revolt

Chinese security forces crush Muslim protests

FROM JONATHAN MIRSKY, EAST ASIA EDITOR, IN HONG KONG

WITH a ferocity unmatched in China since the Tiananmen crackdown in June 1989, security forces have crushed a Muslim uprising involving thousands of protesters.

Soldiers and police later blocked trains and buses filled with enraged Muslims headed for Peking to protest against the security forces' violent actions. The chain of events began with what is already being called the "October 7 Incident" in Xining, the capital of Qinghai province in the far west. Witnesses interviewed in Peking said the violence centred on the storming of a mosque by police in which dozens were injured.

For weeks, reports have been coming out of China's vast western regions — in which 15 million of China's 20 million Muslims live — of riots, plane hijackings, assaults on mosques and arrests of leaders. Peking's Muslim spokesmen have described these events as "counter-revolutionary chaos" spread by a handful of "splittists" taking orders from abroad.

But in the October 7 Incident in Xining, a city of 700,000, witnesses said demonstrators numbered tens of thousands. It began when police tried to prevent the Muslim Anti-humiliation Committee from leading a demonstration against what Muslims regarded as a sacrilegious publication, and attempted to raid the Dongguan mosque in which the protesters were headquartered.

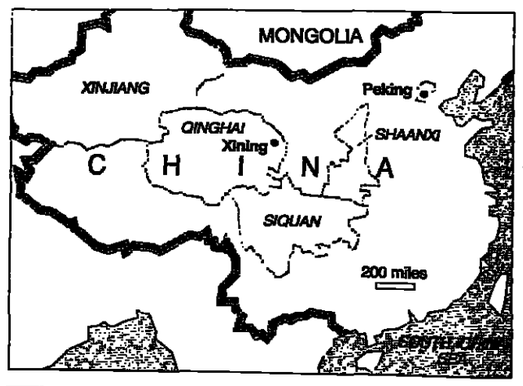
Enraged Muslims then tried to bring their protests to Peking on October 10. Hundreds of police blocked the tracks far to the west of the capital and diverted the buses. One bus is reported to have crashed, and when the passengers tried to ford a river nine drowned.

The authorities declared "public security bodies in Xining took normal coercive measures to deal with the key elements responsible for the lawbreaking". A local official concerned with "minority affairs" said: "Wherever there are Muslims, there is bound to be instability."

The protests began in August when many of China's Muslims, outraged at a notorious comic published in Taiwan showing praying Muslims and a pig, organised a protest in border regions.

The turmoil is a symptom of the historic ethnic instability that pits the majority Han (Chinese) population of more than one billion against 60 million "minorities", of which Muslims are the largest group. In the last five years, there have been increasingly violent clashes between soldiers and police and Muslims in Siquan and Shaanxi provinces, and in Qinghai and Xinjiang.

☐ **Peking:** Corruption in China is now the worst since the Communist state was founded in 1949, according to Procurator-General Zhang Siqing, who said 5,040 officials had been charged with corruption in the first nine months of the year. *(Reuter)*



Sun sets on the Japanese dream of soccer empire

FROM JOANNA PITMAN IN TOKYO

Sporting Japan recoiled in stunned disbelief and retreated into deepest mourning last night when the nation's soccer team was knocked out of the Asian qualifying round for the 1994 World Cup in the final 30 seconds of its match against Iraq.

One evening sports paper framed its front page with a thick black border and led with the headline "Injury Time Nightmare!"

Thousands of weeping young soccer fans were shown on the news sprawled on the pavements in front of giant outdoor television screens where minutes earlier they had been roaring over their expected victory and counting the final seconds in a frenzied scream of nationalistic pride.

One disgruntled fan, dressed as a chicken in a sailor suit, had already donned a black armband and sat swearing feebly into the night as his girlfriend wandered aimlessly among the bodies, wailing and pulling at her hair.

Ginza, the nocturnal playground for Tokyo's armies of businessmen, presented a sad sight, crammed with tired and emotional salarymen, many of them still unwilling to believe that their team had failed and that, worse still, South Korea — a traditional rival in many fields — had pulled through to the final.

Their distress was matched in government ministries and corporate boardrooms across Tokyo where businessmen, who had invested billions of yen from their corporate coffers, and mandarins who had invested their country's international image in the success of the soccer team, sat dumbfounded, seeing their dreams of hosting the 2002 World Cup vanish and their visions of Japan as the world's next international sporting giant obliterated.

Japan's meticulously laid plans to play in the final of the 1994 World Cup, and then to host the 2002 World Cup and soak up all the international spin-offs that come with staging such an important world sporting event, have been as much about levering Japan on to the international political stage as they have been about sport.

Antony Shale, president of the Asian Football Consultancy, said: "To government and football officials alike, the staging of the 2002 World Cup was as prestigious a national goal as getting a permanent seat on the United Nations Security Council."

To ensure the success of the nation's football aims further, officials arranged for Ruy Ramos, a burly Brazilian striker, to be drafted on to the national team. He was even miraculously blessed with Japanese citizenship as soon as he had demonstrated his nimble footwork on the pitch.

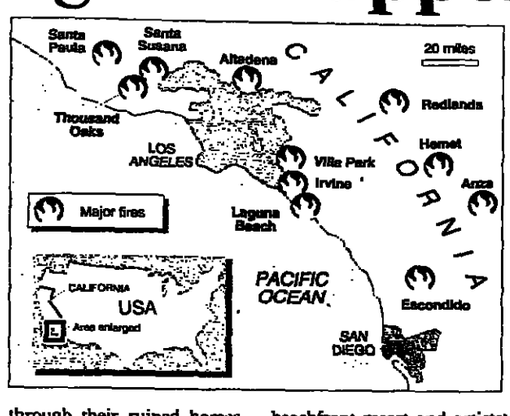
مكذا من الاصل

مكبرا من الأصل

Home-owners pick through the wreckage as dry Santa Ana winds threaten more devastation

Exhausted California fire crews fight for upper hand

FROM IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON



FIREFIGHTERS were racing to bring the last of the southern California brushfires under control yesterday before the hot desert winds that had fanned the devastating flames were due to spring up again after nightfall.

Fire officials said their exhausted crews, 15,000 strong, had gained the upper hand in most of the 15 fires that have blackened 185,000 acres, destroyed 640 homes and left 25,000 homeless in one of the area's worst firestorms this century. There were no deaths, but 32 people were hurt, three of them firefighters in critical condition.

Southern Californians are always irritated when reports of their fires concentrate on the threat to Hollywood celebrities, as if their fate was more important than others. For the record, no stars' homes were destroyed this time.

As hundreds of dazed people tearfully picked through their ruined homes, from humble shacks to million-dollar mansions, there were forecasts that the dreaded dry Santa Ana winds would again come howling down the mountains from the east, bringing gusts that can whip the flames through tinder-dry sagebrush faster than a man can run.

The worst-hit area was the beachfront resort and artists' colony of Laguna Beach, south of Los Angeles, where 310 homes were destroyed. "This used to be a beautiful tea service," Michael Orchowski said, as he uncovered one perfect china cup from the debris of what had been his living room. In the remnants of his study lay the ashes of 2,000 books on art and history. "Of course, we will rebuild. What else can we do?"

Determination to start all over again was widely expressed. Many in southern California refuse to give up their combustible combination of a warm climate and idyllic canyon settings. The hillsides are covered with chaparral that survives the drought by making its own oil and burns as fiercely as petrol when it catches light. Fires swept the region long before modern civilisation. Indian tribes called Los Angeles the Valley of the Smoke.

When the fires start, they unleash in arsonists a dark urge to see more excitement. Clues suggest that at least six of the latest blazes were started deliberately, including the one in Laguna Beach.

Although President Clinton has pledged low-interest federal loans for those who lost everything, the government's costs will be kept down because much of the damage was to homes covered by private insurance.



One house standing relatively unscathed among the 310 homes destroyed by fire in Laguna Beach, California

Senator's diary of sex secrets chills Capitol Hill

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

A SEX scandal involving the frank and salacious private diaries of one of its most senior members is tearing the US Senate apart.

Bob Packwood, an Oregon Republican, is not only refusing to give the diaries to a committee investigating his long history of sexual harassment, but has said darkly that the sex lives of other senior congressmen are discussed in them. As Mae West once remarked: "Keep a diary and a diary will keep you."

On Monday, the ethics committee is forcing the Senate to vote on whether to seek a court order giving it access to Mr Packwood's 24-year chronicle of life on Capitol Hill.

Some members fear exposure. Others recoil from invading a colleague's privacy. But equally they dread rekindling the ire of the powerful women's movement that has barely subsided since the Senate rejected Anita Hill's allegations of sexual harassment against Clarence Thomas, the Supreme Court nominee. After Mr Thomas, Mr Packwood is feminism's number one villain. It was not always so. Feminists once adored Mr Packwood for championing abortion rights and giving women senior positions on his staff. That changed last year when *The Washington Post* produced 23 women who said the 61-year-old senator had made coarse, uninvited sexual advances to them since 1969.

Mr Packwood is reported to have sought to discredit and intimidate his accusers, and he denied the charges until re-elected to a fifth six-year term last November. He then apologised for acting in ways that were "just plain wrong", but he refused to resign and the ethics committee began its investigation.

Mr Packwood disclosed the diaries' existence when he tried to use them in his defence, but he then clashed with the committee over what it could and could not see.

This week he and his lawyer accused the committee of seeking access to all 8,200 pages on the off-chance it would find something incriminating. They then let drop that the diaries raised, among other things, a senator's "extended affair with a staff member and the problems of his divorce" and an intimate relationship between a top congressional Democrat and a Senate aide.

Infuriated by these apparent threats, Richard Bryan, the committee's Democratic chairman, stunned Washington on Thursday by announcing that the diaries contained information suggesting that Mr Packwood may have been involved in criminal activities.

Mr Packwood has one unlikely ally. The American Civil Liberties Union says the committee's demand for the diaries violates his constitutional right to privacy. It was that same right that Mr Packwood invoked when championing a woman's right to choose an abortion.



Packwood: target of feminist movement

US gives itself a nasty treat

FROM SARAH HARTLEY IN WASHINGTON

TOMORROW night Vice-President Gore and his wife, Tipper, will don fancy-dress costume, open their doors and give "Goo Goo clusters" to children trick or treating.

Hallowe'en, however, has deteriorated into a night of heavy policing and curfews. Households failing to offer treats may find their cars spray-painted, windows smashed or gardens wrecked.

So concerned are the authorities in Chicago over the vulnerability of children on the streets that trick or treating has been banned. Church communities now organise alternative "family harvest parties", similar to British harvest festivals.

On All Hallows Eve, children tramp from door to door with plastic bags. Neighbours are repeatedly expected to open their doors and offer goodies to small children. Forced good will is obviously too much for some people; there have been notorious cases of poisoned chocolates, arsenic on popcorn and razor-blades in apples.

Those opposed to the holiday are reviled as killjoys. Hallowe'en is harmless, according to Leon A. Rosenberg, a child psychologist at the Johns Hopkins Children's Centre. "Kids don't perceive witches as evil, and they don't perceive Hallowe'en as a contest between good and evil."

Disguised or not, evil is alive and kicking in the US. According to a recent survey by Stephen Kaplan, founder of the Vampire Research Centre in New York, 650 of the world's 850 vampires live in North America. The Humane Society has a temporary ban on black cats being adopted in the face of evidence that some animals were sacrificed during satanic rituals last Hallowe'en.

A press ad, as seen on TV.

IN our free market, advertisers need to draw attention to the virtues and benefits of their merchandise.

How else can we find out about new products that will improve our lifestyle, our health, our appearance, or our environment?

How else would we learn of offers that save us money, or new services which are just what we've needed?

At its best, advertising should be a service to the customer - an investment which not only benefits the advertiser, but the audience too.

In 1992, the amount spent in this country on advertising is estimated to have been £8.7 billion.

With a sum of such economic significance - given that we, the public, ultimately fund it - we have the right to expect that it is well spent.

How and where is it most wisely invested?

As with financial investments, there are plenty of ways to spend money and some of them are a great deal less efficient than others.

Take the widespread view of many British advertisers that to reach the mass market (by which they mean you and me), they must go on television.

Television is a powerful medium. With a price-tag to match.

The cost of making a 30 second TV commercial these days is likely to be around £120,000.

That's £4,000 per second. We're not talking here about a mini-epic, just an average commercial.

The really expensive ones go much higher. (Take a deep breath.)

Within the last year there have been TV commercials - naming no names - which cost £1.8 million, £1.2 million and £800,000.

It's baffling how any 60 seconds of celluloid can cost such vast sums when the BBC can make a whole hour of TV drama for a relatively meagre £400,000.

But the costs of television don't stop there. Once you've made the commercial, you still have to air it, and air time is costly.

To screen a 30 second commercial in front of the mass audience (25 million adults) just once - and once only - will cost the advertiser around £220,000 (£340,000 when you include production).

For a third less than that, the same audience could have been reached by full page advertisements in all national daily newspapers.

A press advertisement can be every bit as arresting as any TV commercial.

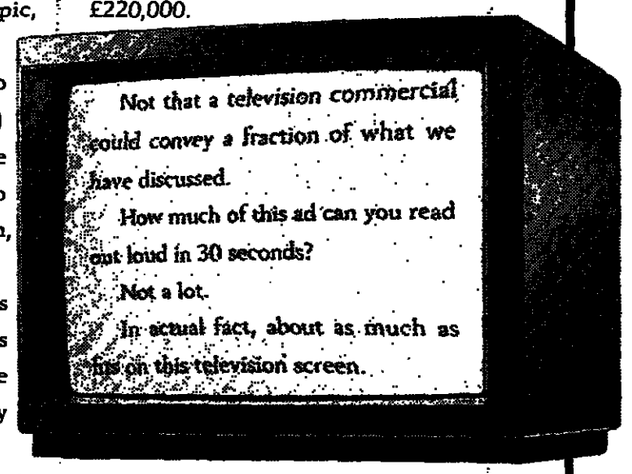
(Think of the RSPCA's pile of dead dogs.)

There are also many things a press advertisement can do which a TV commercial can't. It can present a viewpoint in depth, as we have done here. These words won't dissolve and vanish after 30 seconds.

If you want to read it again, or check a figure we've quoted, this page will still be here an hour, a day, or a week later.

If you're seriously interested in what we've said, you might cut the page out and keep it for reference.

By contrast, every time the poor TV advertiser wants access to another 30 seconds of your attention, he has no alternative but to spend a further £220,000.



The moral of the story: To make the most of your advertising investment, do it in newspapers.

USE THE POWER OF THE PRESS

This advertisement was placed by the Newspaper Publishers Association.

This city's cab-drivers say they need greater protection — from the passengers who see them as mobile cash-machines

Alexander Chancellor in New York

It is usually the last resort of the uninspired journalist to write about taxis, but this week New York taxi-drivers forced themselves on our attention by staging a vast demonstration in Manhattan during the Tuesday evening rush-hour. Thousands of them drove in a slow convoy up Broadway, bringing traffic to a standstill, to vent their fear and anger over the killings and attacks to which they are endlessly subjected.

In London, if anybody is ever frightened in a cab, it is usually the passenger. In New York, it is the other way round. Taxi-drivers here live in fear of their lives, and not without justification. Thirty-five drivers have been murdered so far this year; 45 were killed last year; and the National Institute of Occupational Safety reported this week that taxi-drivers were more likely to get killed in the course of their job than workers in any other American industry.

In fact, only five of those murdered this year were drivers of the familiar licensed yellow cabs, which are the only taxis allowed to pick up fares on the streets. There are more than 11,000 of these in New York, but they comprise only about a quarter of the vehicles for hire which are under the control of the New York City Taxi and Limousine Commission. The rest — about 32,000 of them — are known as "livery cars" and can be hired only by pre-arrangement. They are, in effect, the equivalents of British mini-cabs, though that description would be ridiculous for a category which includes enormous stretch limousines. Five licensed livery drivers have been murdered while working this year, so of the 35 taxi drivers who have been killed, only ten were legal; the rest were unlicensed operators.

The taxi commission, which the demonstrators accuse of ignoring their pleas for greater protection, issued a statement deploring the murders but also pointing out that for taxi drivers "dangerous conditions are inherent, because the driver is carrying money in the car and transporting persons unknown to him". It went on to list the measures it was taking to increase the safety of taxi driving: a plan for all taxis to be equipped with special external lights which would signal to passers-by that there was trouble inside, a proposal to make it obligatory for taxis to be equipped with glass safety partitions between driver and passenger, and the installation of emergency buttons in the front of



every cab which would instantly link the driver with the police through a speakerphone.

In addition, in April this year, the New York City police department set up a special unit of undercover officers who follow yellow cabs and livery cabs, and sometimes even drive taxis themselves, so as to catch unsuspecting criminals. This unit has so far arrested 134 passengers and seized 75 guns from them. Promising to increase the hours worked by this unit, the police commissioner, Raymond Kelly, expressed sympathy for the taxi drivers. "Their cabs are like mobile cash-machines," he said. "People know there's money there, and the drivers are by themselves. They're available in the worst neighbourhoods, and the fare can direct the driver to where they want him."

He was touching here on one of the drivers' most insistent requests, which is for the right to refuse fares whenever they feel like it. At the moment, they are obliged to pick up whoever hails them and drive wherever they are asked to go within the city boundaries, unless the would-be fare is obviously drunk or drugged or displaying weapons. One elderly Haitian taxi-driver has described to me how he lost his entire takings twice in a single week: once when a woman passenger in Greenwich Village drew a knife on him from the back seat, and a second time when he picked up a passenger at Kennedy Airport and was told to drive to a cul-de-sac in Brooklyn, where an ambush of armed men awaited him.

New York taxi-drivers do not enjoy, or probably deserve, the esteem in which their London equivalents are held, for to obtain a licence they are required only to be over 19 years of age, possess a clean driving licence, and pass a simple proficiency test in English. Mostly they are immigrants, many of them struggling to support their families or pay for their studies; and with taxi fares notably lower than they are in London, they have to work very hard to make ends meet. Increasing numbers of them nowadays are from the Indian subcontinent. Of the applicants for yellow cab licences in 1991, the largest single group were Pakistanis (21 per cent), followed by United States citizens (10.5 per cent), Bangladeshis (10.2 per cent), Indians (10 per cent) and former Soviet citizens (6.8 per cent). The young Bangladeshi taxi-driver who brought me to work today spent the entire journey, at my instigation, describing in sombre detail the hazards and hardships of his job. I think that he and many of his colleagues deserve a lot more sympathy than they are usually given.

To be cultured and competitive, we must encourage reading, not start taxing it, says **Robert Blake**

VAT cannot balance the books

One of the worst experiences of my life was my first few weeks as prisoner of war in Italy in 1942. There were no books at all, only playing cards, and one can soon get bored by bridge and poker. Luckily the deficiency was quickly remedied by the Red Cross and other agencies. I had access not only to the Bible and Shakespeare like the castaways on those desert islands of radio fame, but also to Gibbon, Macaulay and much else.

It is only when one is deprived of something that one appreciates its true value. Books were one of the few alleviations of the 15 months of boredom before I had luck to escape in the autumn of 1943. In fact, this enforced leisure enabled me to read a great deal for which I would probably never have found time later — for example, *all* of Shakespeare's plays, the *whole* of the Bible, and Gibbon from start to finish. I also read Dante's *Inferno*, laboriously construed with a pocket dictionary.

Years later I heard about the idiotic campaign on the home front to pulp books "for victory", which was as silly as the move to melt down iron railings and gates. My father, involved as an elderly volunteer in this odious process, suddenly rebelled and smuggled as many books as he could into his own library; and many of them have come down to me. What was the point of fighting Nazi book-burners if we were going to pulp our own?

But books are now under a renewed threat, less immediately lethal but on a long view scarcely less debilitating: VAT. This is said to be one of the options being considered by the Chancellor for his Budget on November 30. Let us hope he opts out. Otherwise he will be reversing the thrust of the Conservative philosophy of education, which is to increase individual opportunity and overall economic performance by improving standards of literacy, education and skills training.

There does seem to be a remarkable unanimity, not only in politics but throughout the entire political, industrial and educational establishment, that something has gone radically wrong over the past generation or more in education and in training in industrial skills. The laments of university chancellors that too many students start their university careers unable to read well enough to absorb the syllabus are now being supplemented by a chorus, from the prime minister down, that reading standards are deplorably low.

John Major tells us "one in four children leave secondary education and can't read properly"; John Patten adds that literacy is a key issue for Britain's international competitiveness: "I do not believe that Germany and France have the same problems." The supposedly superior Scottish educational system suffers too; the Secretary of State for Scotland, Ian Lang, protested recently that "many young Scots are leaving school unable to read and write. They don't have the tools to do the jobs of yesterday, never mind tomorrow."

The respected national literacy agency, the Adult Literacy and Basic Skills Unit has reported that some six million adults cannot read well enough to cope with daily activities, let alone seize opportunities, while 28 per cent of companies rated employees' writing skills as "poor" or "very poor". The adult literacy unit has just announced a family literacy initiative — in effect an emergency remedial exercise — which has strong support from the education department. It would be destructive and ironic if the Treasury were to undermine this.

So this is not just a debate about education. It is an urgent debate about Britain's economic performance and standing in the world. It is also about the ability of individuals, and of the nation as a whole, to stand on their own feet. Reading depends on public access to books, newspapers and other daily reading matter. Its long-term importance transcends short-term Treasury considerations.

When Gladstone abolished excise duty on paper and initiated the abolition of stamp duty on publications, he described the latter as a tax "which has long stood in evil odour in this House". He was echoed by Kingsley Wood, who as Churchill's Chancellor in the second world war accepted that the new purchase tax, to finance the war in its grimmest days, should not apply to books and newspapers. Iain Macleod and Anthony Barber agreed when they introduced VAT in 1972, and so zero-rated books, newspapers and magazines, to avoid imposing "a tax on knowledge". And this policy was again endorsed by Nigel Lawson — at Margaret Thatcher's behest, as he tells us — and earlier this year by Norman Lamont.

> As well as economics, this is a question about the sort of people we wish to be

Britain's publishing industries, enjoying the advantage of the English language, have a technological lead within Europe at least, and with their international marketing skills they are the country's best prospect for growth in a future information-based world economy. But there is no reason why the information industry should remain in Britain if the environment here were to become hostile. Modern information technology gives such industries freedom to operate wherever they will. America regards itself as the world multimedia leader, and it is all too easy to imagine our major information companies moving to North America, with its large and advanced domestic market and high skill resources.

But the question is not merely one of economics. It is a question of what sort of people we are going to be. Any obstacles in the way of reading will diminish the quality of life, and it is the young, with limited spending money, who are likely to be most adversely affected by any taxation on reading. Rather than preventing them reading, we should encourage them to discover the glories of literature. It is deceptive to argue that the dangers would be avoided by exempting educational institutions and libraries, but it is daily familiarity with reading matter in the home that is the real spur to enquiry. Nor is it practical to try to tax only the more prurient or popular, for popular works are the most accessible to would-be readers.

In the scramble for tax revenues which do not at first sight seem to hurt too much, such considerations are liable to be thrown to one side. But if we abandon our stand against any tax on reading we will be taking an irreversible decision, for European directives make it impossible to go back. We would be shooting ourselves not just in both feet, but where the injury is most damaging — in the head.

Lord Blake is president of the Don't Tax Reading campaign.

(Pause). Enter two writers

Britain's leading playwrights have both triumphed again after a fallow decade





Tom Stoppard (*left*) has regained the courage of his non-convictions, while Harold Pinter is once again full of Nordic intensity

Pinter and Stoppard. Stoppard and Pinter. Which is correct? We must get it right. Sullivan and Gilbert would never have done, nor would Spencer and Marks or Wise and Morecambe. Our cultural history demands couplings that scan, and P and S (or S and P) are a coupling that is coming to define our age.

Until this month there were doubts. Both these talents of the 1970s seemed to have been enervated by the 1980s. They stuttered and took refuge in message drama. Neither has had a fullblown success in ten years. Both were dogged by the awful conclusion of artists down the ages: "My early stuff is preferred." The audience pointed at the silent stage and frowned.

Suddenly bang, bang, both barrels fully loaded, firing in quick succession. Next week Harold Pinter's new play, *Moonlight*, transfers to the Comedy Theatre in the West End after a packed run at the Almeida in Islington. Tom Stoppard's *Arcadia* has been filling the Lyttelton Theatre at the National since the summer. Meanwhile, a series of Pinter revivals has been capped by a brilliant *No Man's Land* (1975), with Pinter and Paul Eddington in the lead roles. Stoppard has revised *Travesties* (1974) with the director Adrian Noble at the Barbican. Each can now take a bow and cry, "Not dead, My Lords, but merely sleeping ere the crowing of the cock".

I am sure Pinter and Stoppard — both sensitive souls — hate being bracketed together. They must be maddened by glib contrasts: Pinter, spare, modernist; Stoppard, postmodern, rococo. Pinter the minimalist, deep, hard, obscene, the embodiment of rage. Stoppard the classicist, cerebral, subtle, the soul of charm and wit. Pinter pounding his fists on the boards of the fringe, Stoppard luxuriating with the nymphs and cherubs of the subsidised stage. They are contrasted as poets of heart and of head, as tramp and dandy, rocker and mod. Thus the cultural history of Britain must be for ever split between roundheads and cavaliers.

Yet it is remarkable that after a fallow decade, these two men should coincidentally return to hit the jackpot. Both have overcome writer's block by reverting to the styles and subject matter of the early 1970s, as if released from the political obligations imposed upon them by the 1980s. Was this the curse of Thatcherism? Both are back in their *metier*, pushing, pulling, teasing, begging, cajoling the English language into telling the audience a story.

I cannot deny that much of *Moonlight* leaves me mystified. The plot is so unexplained and unresolved that I was no longer intrigued, and ceased to care. Yet at the play's heart lies a conversation between a dying man and his wife, portrayed with masterful poignancy that I could ignore the rest. This is what Pinter always did best: the lines without words, the hand reaching out but not touching, the Corbusian architecture of desolation. There are now glimmers of hope which I do not recall from former plays. "I don't believe it's going to be pitch black for ever," says the dying Andy, "because if it's pitch black for ever what would have been the point in going through all these enervating charades?"

Pinter apparently takes Kafka and Beckett as his lodestars. I find him closer to the Scandinavians, to Strindberg and Ibsen, a theatrical Edvard Munch. He needs complete commitment from his actors — and gets it from Anna Massey and Ian Holm. But the pit into which he makes them look is not empty, not even in *Moonlight*. The repetition of meaningless names may now be a cliché; the sudden shifts of mood and accent in the subplot almost suggest a parodist; but Pinter's ability to sear the mind is undiminished. After *The Homecoming* in 1969, he said that he "couldn't any longer stay in the room with this bunch of people who opened doors and came in and went out". In *Moonlight*, he returns to that room. He long ago made it his own and it clearly suits him.

Stoppard has gone home too. *Arcadia* is a return to *Travesties*. (The two plays can be compared as a fascinating time-lapse at the National and the Barbican, if you can get near either.) Sheridan has supplanted Wilde as dramatic

Simon Jenkins

prop. Chaos theory has supplanted art theory. An English country house has replaced a Zurich library. But the gaiety and humour, the relentless quips, puns and quotations, the labyrinthine plot are old familiars. Familiar too is the talking up to the audience. Did Byron flee England in 1809 after murdering a jealous husband? Did the daughter of the house accidentally invent the second law of thermodynamics? Did her tutor become the hermit needed by the picturesque architect? Can the prim archivist or the odious Sussex lecturer find the answers? Can the audience follow the jokes, let alone the plot? Has Stoppard become a branch of fractal geometry and departed on a one-man journey deep into the Mandelbrot set?

Arcadia is the most sophisticated cabaret artistry. The eye never disengages, the mind is constantly on the alert. Stoppard's faults haunt him like old bugbears. He still cannot cope with love. His electricity earths whenever his heroes cease their crackling repartee and turn to inner feelings. But this is a comedy of manners and ideas. *Arcadia* is the authentic postmodern play, eclectic, picturesque, devoid of morality, glittering with Trevor Nunn's surface dazzle. "It's the best possible time to be alive," says one of its present-day characters, "when almost everything you thought you knew is wrong." The master of *Jumpers* and *Travesties*, the "one lucky bastard who's the artist", is back to his old form.

I like to see Stoppard and Pinter as a continuum rather than a contrast. Pinter takes over where Stoppard leaves off. Had Stoppard's Hannah and Bernard ever got together, they would surely have ended as Pinter's Andy and Bel. When Stoppard's party is over, when the jokes have been appreciated, when every jumper is travestied and every Hapgood deserves a favour, he too is nagged by questions. "When we have found all the mysteries and lost all the meaning," says Septimus finally in *Arcadia*, "we will be alone, on an empty shore." The universe is cooling, time is an arrow, only chaos has laws.

Stoppard's reaction is to brush aside the question, to invite Septimus and the audience to a luscious waltz. Pinter's reaction is different. He leads us into his frozen room, sits us down and lets us ponder in silence. "What is being said here? ... What finally is being said?" asks Jake in *Moonlight*. For some reason it is always Pinter not Stoppard who contrives to make me look for answers to his open questions.

Future critics may see all this as moral anaesthetic. They may see both Pinter and Stoppard as brilliant technicians of language, manipulators of words, funny, clever but inconsequential, in the great lyric tradition of English stagecraft. The difference between them may be seen as simply of class and backcloth. They are "about" the same thing, which is not very much. Hence the critics' complaint that both *Moonlight* and *Arcadia* look back in style, not forward.

To me that is their strength. I love that great lyric tradition. I enjoy being left to find my own answers to playwrights' questions, not having them clobber me with them. Here two writers have rediscovered their confidence, their talent to entertain. The prodigals have returned. All they need do now is write more plays.

Capitulate and thrive



MATTHEW BOND DIARY

NOT for the first time, Lady Thatcher has started something. Suddenly anyone who's anyone is drifting with the tide, riding the currents of consensus, following the path of least resistance. John Major may have been first to clamber onto the intellectually rudderless raft, but as he readily admits he wasn't alone for long. This season, the vogue is very definitely for vague.

Pragmatism has become the order of the day, with policy reverses positively *de rigueur*. The merest suggestion that a trainload of angry rail passengers might shortly be arriving at King's Cross is now enough to send John MacGregor rushing to revise his rail privatisation bill. Just mention that the Sheehy proposals are upsetting a few policemen and Michael Howard will stub them out.

No pressure group is too small to listen to, no favour too much to ask. The drinks industry has only to hint that the young's preference for spending their money at raves and not in pubs is costing them £2 billion a year in lost sales, for the government to be all hands to the pump. In less time than it takes to shout "short measure", bubbles and froth are reclassified as beer and profit margins are magically restored. Whether the move will persuade the nation's youth that "E" is something best made by Worthington remains to be seen.

The new appetite for capitulation is having dramatic effects on ministerial morale. Not only do ministers become more popular, but it frees so much time. Giving in is nothing if not quick.

Kenneth Clarke, aware that his plans to impose VAT on heating fuel will now be thwarted the minute the first charabanc of pensioners makes it to No. 11, intends to use his free time to pursue literary ambitions. The Chancellor is apparently working on projects that include a weighty tome on how he expects to make it to the top (working title *A Suitable Prime Minister*). His publishers, and Lord Gowrie, have greater hopes for a rather slimmer volume, telling the tale of how a ten-year-old boy sets about tackling a £50 billion deficit, *Kenneth Clarke, Ha Ha Ha*.

Of course, the danger of consensus politics is that it can be mistaken for a policy vacuum. And certainly there has been no shortage of candidates rushing to fill the perceived ministerial void. The Prince of Wales led the way, laying impressive claim to be considered for a cabinet post at the foreign office or environment. His main competition to succeed Douglas Hurd comes from Lady Thatcher, whom many feel should be given a proper job, and from his wife, of whom many feel pretty much the same.

But while the Princess of Wales improved her modest chances by announcing plans for a goodwill trip to Russia, the prince and the baroness locked horns on the battlefield of international relations. Both, it emerged, share a hardline approach to Saddam Hussein, but they differ on the other great threat to the global economy, the French. For in the wake of the Air France strike which left another Attali brother out of a job, and Canadian elections which left virtually the entire Conservative party out of theirs, the French and their Québécois allies have a stranglehold on world trade. Whisper not in the streets of Gatt or any other trade agreement come to that — not unless you're fond of the smell of burning Michelins.

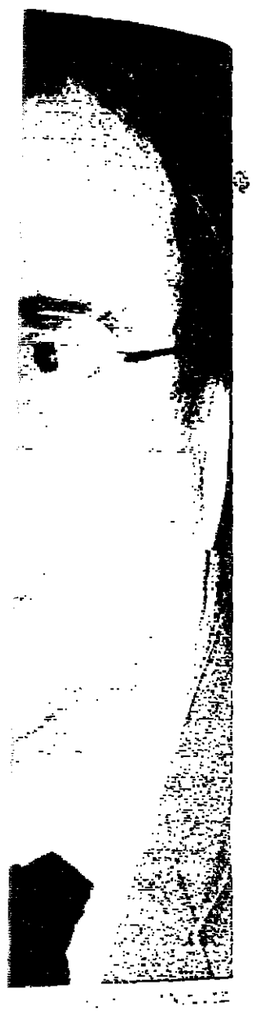
A fluent French speaker, the prince would doubtless try as foreign secretary to negotiate a new trade agreement. Lady Thatcher too would use her command of French to make her position clear: "Non, non, non."

Should her unfashionable convictions secure the FO, the prince could content himself with John Gummer's post at environment. His *Lord of the Flies* speech on the horrors of tower-block living drew acclaim, although his comments about being "trapped in a spiral of despair" suggest he has been spending more time in turrets than tower blocks, where "trapped in the *lifts*" is more the order of the day.

But the prince has a rival for the environment post too, in the comely form of Dilberta, a 14-year-old female Asian elephant who was clearly much taken with Gummer when he visited London Zoo. In exchange for Dilberta's help in demonstrating what eight tons of carbon looked like, Gummer said the environment department would pay for her upkeep for a year. But having read reports that environment is coming off badly in the cabinet battle of the public spending cuts, Dilberta is offering to pay for Gummer's upkeep for a year. Just as long as there's room for her on the raft, that is.

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هكذا من الأصل



EUROPE ON THE DOLE

Workers are massing against the reforms that would bring jobs

Strikes and a massed demonstration by Belgium's main socialist union brought Brussels almost to a halt yesterday. Their protest noisily illustrated the dilemma common to most of the European Community leaders assembled for their "celebratory" summit. John Major, keenly aware that Britain's recovery depends on continental Europe's emergence from recession, pleaded with his colleagues that the most practical ways to boost growth and jobs were to make labour more flexible, deregulate production, open up markets — and reduce interest rates. His colleagues' sceptical reception of Jacques Delors' grand spending plans and outspoken attack on "monetary orthodoxy" reflect a growing realism about the causes of the EC's declining competitiveness. But what brought the demonstrators onto the streets was the Belgian government's overdue effort to forge a "social pact" to cut the country's unsustainable budget deficit and restore its flagging competitiveness.

These are precisely the reforms required to reduce Belgium's soaring unemployment and stimulate investment — and precisely the measures which are hardest to take in mid-recession. In Germany, Italy and France this year, the story is the same.

Chancellor Kohl's scathing description of his country as "a collective leisure park" has launched a nationwide debate on the costs of the social state, the inflexibility of its labour force and the accumulated costs of over-generous perks for workers — ranging from holiday bonuses to free canteens and paid visits to health spas. With unemployment expected to rise to 3.8 million next year even if growth resumes, Germany's economists are unanimous that there is no alternative to cutting spending and welfare payments — including Germany's unbelievably generous unemployment benefits. But even the first reforms have cracked Germany's famed social peace: 120,000 construction workers rallied in Bonn this week against plans to phase out "bad weather" winter payments; and proposed cuts in the huge subsidies to the coal industry have produced pit sit-ins, hunger strikes and blockaded motorways.

In Italy, the enormous public respect in which the prime minister, Carlo Ciampi, is held — coupled with the main parties' dread of facing the electorate — helped him survive a crucial vote of no confidence yesterday. But 1,000 amendments threaten his courageous 1994 budget; and with unemployment nearly 11 per cent, Thursday's general strike was joined by 14 million workers, some of them involved in violent demonstrations.

As for France, where the Air France dispute broke a year of industrial peace unparalleled since 1946, the government's humiliating retreat bodes ill for the restructuring plans of its other loss-making state-owned giants — and hence for Edouard Balladur's plans to raise Frs400 billion through privatising them. All these plans include mass redundancies: and the government's most optimistic assumption about unemployment, now 11.7 per cent and rising, is that resumed growth next year will do no more than stop the dole queues lengthening.

Europe isn't working, and M Delors is right that economic growth alone will not end the dole queues. But, although even he now admits that labour market rigidities are a problem, his "new deal" is anything but new. His "top-down" schemes for EC public investment in infrastructure, transport and information technology betray a mindset which sees the state as the creator of wealth.

Technological change creates intractable problems of adjustment as well as opportunities, and all countries need active labour market policies to get people back to work. But the fact remains that Europe will not work so long as labour costs rise four times as fast as in America or Japan. It will not work so long as high minimum wages deter employers from hiring people they cannot fire, and taxes and social security absorb an average 45 per cent of wages. When the Delors White Book comes before the December summit, Mr Major needs to win the argument — for Europe's sake.

WHOSE PEACE?

Ulster needs much more than Anglo-Irish cooperation

In a conflict as ancient as the Irish dilemma, the word "breakthrough" should be deployed with the greatest caution. Yesterday's meeting between John Major and Albert Reynolds, the Irish taoiseach, had many constructive aspects, notably their strong joint rejection of the recent accord between the SDLP and Sinn Fein. The talks were more substantial than the benign platitudes which traditionally emerge from the Anglo-Irish sideshow at an EC summit. Yet, after a week of bloodshed in the province, it would be premature to see the discussions as more than a diplomatic staging-post.

As the six principles underpinning the Irish submission to the meeting revealed, Dublin's position on some issues is indeed shifting. This week, Dick Spring, the deputy prime minister and foreign minister, reopened the vexed question of Articles 2 and 3 which assert the Republic's constitutional claim to the province and have long been a stumbling-block to productive negotiation with the loyalist community. The Irish government has also firmly acknowledged "once and for all . . . the freedom of Unionists to withhold their consent" to change.

This recognition appears to mark a new realism and clarity in some areas of Dublin's diplomatic thinking. Yet there was a worrying ring of familiarity in other parts of the Irish submission, which aimed to hold the door open to terrorist groups more widely than was proper or wise in the aftermath of last Saturday's Shankill Road bombing and the cold-blooded murder of two Catholic brothers on Thursday. "They *can* come to the negotiating table," its submission claimed, "they *can* play a peaceful part in the development of Ireland's future".

These supplicatory italics must have been noted with relish by Gerry Adams, leader of the IRA's political wing, who as spokesman and coffin-bearer has this week become a despicable symbol of the Republican ballot and bullet strategy. Mr Reynolds may have rejected the Sinn Fein-SDLP pact last night; but it is clear that he would like to see the Republican movement included in negotiations sooner rather than later.

More fundamental questions remain. After seven days in which 17 people have been killed in the North, the people of Ulster might be forgiven for asking why Dublin's attitude should suddenly be so important; with what authority Mr Reynolds and Mr Spring presumed to plot the province's future; and who spoke for Belfast as London and Dublin whispered to one another. Since 1985, the warmth of Anglo-Irish relations has nurtured false optimism in London and Dublin and misconceptions about the structures in which peace will be achieved. In truth, negotiations between the British and Irish governments can only be one element — and probably quite a small one — in the resolution of the province's problems.

In spite of Mr Major's dependency upon his Unionist supporters in Parliament, it is easy to see why many loyalists see the spectre of "joint rule" in cosy meetings such as yesterday's. That suspicion can only help to postpone useful discussions between the constitutional parties in the North. For men of goodwill such as Mr Major and Mr Reynolds to talk openly and often is a necessary condition of peace; but it can by no means be a sufficient one.

REPEAT AFTER ME

Repetitive strain injury is as old as the ancient Egyptians

The human body was not designed to spend eight hours a day, five days a week, performing the same fiddly action. Even Stone Age man, chipping away at a flint, would eventually take time off to go hunting. As recently as ten years ago, journalists or typists would punctuate their hours at the keyboard by pulling the carriage return lever and feeding new sheets of paper into their typewriter. Now the boon of the word-processor has led to the bane of repetitive strain injury (RSI). Or so most people thought until Thursday, when Judge John Prosser told them otherwise.

Rejecting a claim by a journalist, Rafiq Mughal, against his former employer, Reuters news agency, Judge Prosser pronounced that RSI was meaningless and "had no place in the medical books". He suggested that keyboard users forced to give up their jobs because of agonising pain in their muscles and joints were "eggshell personalities who needed to get a grip on themselves".

Any tennis player or athlete — not famous for their eggshell personalities — will confirm that injury does not have to be the result of sudden trauma; it can also be caused by frequent repetition of the same movement. Tennis elbow is just one variant of RSI, an ailment that was recorded as long ago as the papyrus-beaters of Ancient Egypt. But it is only since the introduction of VDUs in the past decade that its incidence in this country as a work-related problem has become widespread.

Sufferers are handicapped because the symptoms of RSI — which range from tingliness and numbness to excruciating pain — often do not display themselves. Like back pain, it is hard for doctors to confirm that a patient is suffering from RSI. It is this that has led some doctors and employers to propose that the condition does not exist; or that if it does, it is all in the mind.

Some "sufferers" may be malingerers but there have been many documented examples of ambitious, dedicated people being forced to give up a job they enjoy because of RSI. Moreover, many people have had mild strain injuries cured by being taught to sit or type differently or by being given a chair or desk of a better height. If that cures the pain, it seems logical that the wrong posture or bad office furniture will have caused it in the first place.

Employers may believe that denial is in their interest. Actually the opposite is true. If employees suffering from RSI think that their bosses will be unsympathetic, they will not report the symptoms. If left to deteriorate, RSI can force workers to give up their job altogether. Like many complaints, RSI can be an excuse for lazy employees. But the condition is prevalent enough and preventable enough for no purpose to be served by denying that it exists. Judge Prosser went well beyond his brief and expertise by painting all RSI sufferers as neurotics.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

Leadership issues in N Ireland

From Mr David Trimble, MP for Upper Bann (Ulster Unionist)

Sir, Simon Jenkins ("A bomb for all bigots", October 27) is quite right to point to the way that direct rule has corrupted public life in Ulster and reduced us virtually to the status of a colony.

But he is wrong to suggest that all Ulster's elected representatives are content with this state of affairs. Our party has consistently drawn attention to the scandal whereby virtually all local government is run by quangos, stuffed by placemen drawn from a remarkably narrow range of society.

Our leader, Jim Molyneaux, has consistently urged the return of responsibility to locally elected representatives. Indeed in 1979 he successfully persuaded the Conservatives to include this in their election manifesto — a commitment they soon forgot to implement. Last year, three of the four "constitutional" parties agreed a plan for a local assembly run on the principle of proportionality, but they hesitated to implement it.

In 1988 I was one of the authors of a publication entitled "Ulster, the internal colony", which urged reform of parliamentary procedures for Ulster. One of the key reforms we advocated, the creation of a Northern Ireland select committee, moved a step nearer today when the Commons Procedure Committee voted to consider the issue of the membership of such a committee.

Then perhaps Parliament will move to end legislation by decree, the other key reform we recommended, a reform endorsed in recent years by the Hansard Society and the Standing Advisory Commission on Human Rights.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID TRIMBLE,
House of Commons.
October 27.

From Mr C. L. Dawes

Sir, I agree with today's statement by the mayor of Belfast that the recent violence in Northern Ireland is linked to the Hume/Adams talks, but I disagree totally with his conclusions.

Any settlement will have to be some sort of compromise, and compromise is anathema to the bigots on both sides.

The run-up to any solution will be marked by an increase in violence, but, dreadful though it is, it will be a price worth paying.

Yours sincerely,
C. L. DAWES,
Leacon Hall,
Warehorne, Ashford, Kent.
October 26.

The price of loving

From Mr Matthew F. Smith

Sir, The declining popularity of weddings ("The high price of loving", October 28) is hardly helped by the impersonal nature of some wedding ceremonies. Many churches refuse to marry divorcees, but some clergy will not allow the couple to choose hymns, never mind having a say in the form and content of the service. (For example, not every woman today wants to be "given away" by her father or a male relative.)

The increasing number of couples of mixed faith would like to be able to have both religious traditions affirmed in a spiritual ceremony, but this is seldom permitted.

Against the national trend, Unitarians and others of a liberal persuasion are experiencing increased interest because we can offer personalised approaches to religious rites. The marriage ceremony should be an expression of a precious and unique relationship and therefore the couple have a right to feel happy about what goes into it. Otherwise, why go through with it?

Yours sincerely,
MATTHEW SMITH
(Information Officer),
The General Assembly of Unitarian and Free Christian Churches,
Essex Hall, 1-6 Essex Street,
Strand, WC2.
October 28.

Test of seniority

From the Rector of Morden Team Parish

Sir, The Church Society may be the oldest evangelical Church of England society, but to call it the most senior ("Church faces fresh battle over women", October 23) is misleading. A previous rector of Morden, Canon Tom Livermore, was for many years its secretary, at a time when it did command the support of most evangelical Anglicans.

Today one should look to the Church Pastoral Aid Society for a more comprehensive representation of the evangelical Anglican constituency (although it does not see itself in a party campaigning role). Perhaps the Church of England Evangelical Council best describes where mainstream Anglican evangelicals are coming from.

Sincerely,
RAY SKINNER,
The Rectory, London Road,
Morden, Surrey.
October 26.

Weekend Money letters, page 31

Sex education for young children

From Mr David Baxter

Sir, As a parent of four children, three of whom are under 11, I strongly object to the latest classroom guide on sex education (report, October 26).

The Family Planning Association's increasingly explicit materials should have no place in our primary schools. Details of this kind are not appropriate for children of that age.

Once again we see an attempt to sacrifice innocence at the altar of so-called social need. The results of interference of this kind over the last 20 years are plain for all to see, with a dramatic increase in teenage pregnancies and an abortion rate which is scandalous.

I have not abdicated or delegated my responsibility in this area to the FPA or other such organisations. Their interference has already gone too far.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID BAXTER,
11 Kirby Close, Ipswich, Suffolk.
October 26.

From Miss Miralee Hackshaw

Sir, Libby Purves ("Plumbing for the under-8s", October 26) seems to assume, quite wrongly, that sex education lessons in primary schools are conducted without parental knowledge and support.

She acknowledges that young children's minds are open to the influence of our troubled society. Should we not therefore ensure that we provide sensible, honest and straightforward information about sex, sexuality and personal relationships if our children are to develop fully as emotionally mature human beings?

Sex education requires a variety of approaches at different ages, and there should be progression in a programme which matches the development of the pupils concerned.

Ms Purves seems to indicate that the use of correct terminology for the sexual parts when working with the young is misguided and inappropriate. She cannot surely be suggesting that playground slang for body parts has a place in the primary classroom and that children should be denied the opportunity, in a learning environment, to use the correct names and find out to which gender they apply.

Teachers are faced with the huge responsibility of educating the whole child — i.e.,

. . . the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils, and we should prepare pupils . . . for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life (section 1, Education Reform Act 1988).

In my view, many prayers have at long last been answered with the publication of this excellent Family Planning Association book, which will assist professionals in fulfilling their statutory responsibilities.

Yours faithfully,
MIRALEE HACKSHAW
(Deputy headteacher),
Hotham Primary School,
Charlwood Road, Putney, SW15.
October 26.

From Mrs Phillida Jermain

Sir, When answering my three children's questions at an early age about sex, I found a brief accurate response was all that was wanted. Any attempt at a detailed answer left me addressing an empty room.

Most children of 4-7 years old are simply not interested in sex. Relationships and the difference between male and female are noted and discussed in a general way from their first year at primary school.

The time for sex education in schools, which should always be within the context of a loving relationship, is before entry to secondary school, at the onset of puberty, when children become aware of and seek to find out about the changes in their bodies and emotions.

The Family Planning Association's proposal would appear to be a totally inappropriate attempt to teach the unnecessary to the innocent and uninterested.

Yours truly,
PHILLIDA JERMAIN (Chairman,
Young Families' Committee),
The Mothers' Union,
The Mary Sumner House,
24 Tufton Street, SW1.
October 27.

Changing the clocks

From Mr Brian Cook

Sir, The proposal of Mr G. L. Sinclair and others (letter, October 23) to reintroduce Central European Time would certainly not "match waking and daylight hours much more efficiently" in Scotland and the North of England.

I am sceptical, too, of the claim that accidents each year would be reduced by "nearly 2,000". Icy roads in the morning darkness are a far greater hazard than wet ones in the evening, I suspect.

At present, most children in Scotland can travel to and from school in at least half-light. Leaving home an hour earlier would mean several weeks of travelling in darkness.

The cost of heating one's home for an extra hour in the dark mornings will more than offset any gain from going to bed an hour earlier. I know this to be a fact from my own experience 25 years ago when this change was foisted upon us. My consumption of gas was greater than before or after the experiment.

To conclude, there is no overwhelming necessity to inflict on us such a time change. Nobody, I am sure (certainly not in Scotland), would object to those who think like Mr Sinclair getting to work an hour earlier. This can be done without the need to play around with the clocks any more than we do now.

Yours faithfully,
B. COOK,
5 Upper Coltbridge Terrace,
Edinburgh 12.
October 24.

From Father Roger Arguile

Sir, Your argument (leading article, October 25) about changing from GMT to CET lacks credibility. The citizens of Chicago trade with those of New York and San Francisco without difficulty. Those Britons who wish to trade to maximum effect with Europe may start work an hour earlier (just as those who trade with Japan live strange twilight hours). But to impose this arrangement on the rest of us is an unwarranted interference with our lives.

Yours,
ROGER ARGUILE,
St Bertelin's Vicarage,
Holmcroft Road, Stafford.
October 25.

From Mr H. A. Bott

Sir, Mr G. L. Sinclair and his associates, using speculative statistics, present a poor case for the imposition of Central European Time, and omit to mention that it has already been tried and rejected.

For three years, from October 1968, we suffered it, until Parliament (responsive in those days to public opinion) reverted to our present system. The only new factor since that time is the insane determination of Eurofanatics to subjugate us in every conceivable way to the policies and practices of the Continent.

Under CET Birmingham would start work at the same time as Berlin, although sunrise there is an hour earlier. Given Mr Sinclair's arguments, the Germans should be putting their clocks forward yet another hour. But Germans have more sense.

Yours faithfully,
H. A. BOTT,
Horizons, Green Lane,
Yarpole, Leominster,
Hereford and Worcester.
October 23.

From Mr Michael Henderson-Begg

Sir, Our insistence on putting our clocks back to British Winter Time (otherwise known as GMT), together with escalating fares and declining investment in transport, helps to erode London's standing as Europe's major financial centre. Our clocks should be kept permanently aligned with those of virtually the whole of Western Europe. Apart from anything else, we could avoid the absurdity of trains hurtling through the Channel tunnel with different times at each end.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL HENDERSON-BEGG,
Bartholomew House,
66 Westbury Road,
New Malden, Surrey.

From Miss M. Davies-Scourfield

Sir, Those who wish single/double summer time re-introduced state that early risers "would have to adapt, often by starting work an hour later" (and presumably finishing an hour later), and that "in Scotland the early mornings will (*sic*) be gloomy in midwinter" — and even gloomier in Shetland.

However, these continental timers can themselves adapt immediately by rising an hour early in winter and two hours early in summer.

Continental time was given a fair trial and abandoned — I trust permanently.

Yours faithfully,
M. DAVIES-SCOURFIELD,
The Stables, Burpham,
Arundel, West Sussex.

Present and correct

From Mrs Jean M. Storrow

Sir, Like Mrs Casson (letter, October 19; also letters, October 8, 25), on the invitations to our golden wedding celebration last year we said: "Please, no presents — just come yourselves." Our friends came, bringing trifles, tokens, commemorative offerings, anniversary remembrances, little somethings, little nothings, even a little nonsense, but — they assured us — no presents.

Yours faithfully,
JEAN M. STORROW,
Ryedale House, Helmsley, York.

Tit for tat?

From Mr Christopher Stell

Sir, Now that the lord mayor of London is not automatically to be honoured with a knighthood by virtue of his office (report, October 22) does the prime minister still expect an invitation to the lord mayor's banquet by virtue of his?

Yours faithfully,
CHRISTOPHER STELL,
Frognal, 25 Berks Hill,
Chorleywood,
Hertfordshire.
October 28.

Plea to save Third World aid budget

From Mr Lenny Henry

Sir, It seems that our foreign aid budget is about to be cut, and that as much as £100 million may go at a stroke. As someone who has visited a lot of aid projects in Africa and seen the huge changes that small amounts of money can make to people's lives, I would beg this doesn't happen — and I've got a feeling most of the British public feel the same.

During the 1984 famine in Ethiopia, at the time of Live Aid, all of us joined together in an extraordinary unity of emotion, knowing for damn sure that our own problems were not of the magnitude of the people starving north of Addis Ababa. It was a true and deep feeling. We at Comic Relief have tried to keep this feeling alive — and the British people have absolutely gone with us.

On last Red Nose day, 4.1 million phone calls were made to give us money. Over the years, people have given Comic Relief £90 million out of their own pockets, £30 million for UK projects, and £60 million to spend in Africa: and these aren't rich people — we get quids from kids and tenners from pensioners: every time we do Comic Relief we know the country cares about aid in Africa.

Obviously this is a tough round of Treasury decisions and every area of life faces cuts. But the people that Britain's aid is helping abroad are often living so near the edge that they just can't take any more cuts.

When there's an earthquake in San Francisco, 70 people die — when there's an earthquake in India, 30,000 people die. When there's a drought in Ethiopia, half a million people die — when there's a drought in Britain, it's our roses.

The aid is crucial for people who are that vulnerable. We beg the government not to cut one area of spending of which we can all be proud.

Of course we at Comic Relief, and the millions who support us, aren't politicians — we don't have to face the Treasury's tough choices. But, readers of *The Times*, if you bump into Ken Clarke, or find yourself sitting next to Mike Portillo in the canteen, please pass this message on — "Don't Cut Foreign Aid".

Then tell them to visit the hospitals they support in India, the schools they open in Cambodia, the wells they build in Eritrea — and then they, and everyone in the UK, will be proud of what they didn't do.

Yours etc,
LENNY HENRY,
Comic Relief,
74 New Oxford Street, W1.
October 25.

London orchestras

From Mr John Drummond

Sir, Anthony Everitt's letter (October 27) about the membership of the Hoffmann committee on the funding of London orchestras assures us that such people "approach their task with no sign of vested interest". I am sure this is true, especially since the majority of committee members do not live in London.

But does this not also mean that they are not in a convincing position to judge the quality of the orchestral playing which I thought was the point of the exercise? Resident in Bournemouth, Newcastle upon Tyne, Chicago and Brisbane or Hong Kong, they will no doubt have clear views on business plans or education proposals. But what about the music?

Yours faithfully,
JOHN DRUMMOND
(Director, BBC Promenade Concerts),
16 Langham Street, W1.

Cost of theatre

From Mr Archie Newman

Sir, In his otherwise excellent article (October 23) regarding the new lecture theatre at Emmanuel College, Marcus Binney writes that it will cost £10 million. Excellent though the new building is, its *actual* cost is just £4.2 million. The sum quoted by Mr Binney is the sum required to carry out the entire current development programme here.

Of the remaining £6 million, the principal items include the provision of academic posts and teaching fellowships, a fellow librarian and archivist, provision of scholarships to Harvard and increased provision to relieve hardship among the student body.

Yours faithfully,
ARCHIE NEWMAN
(Development Director),
Emmanuel College, Cambridge.

Put out more flags

From Mr P. A. Barnard

Sir, So John Patten is suggesting that schools throughout the land should fly the Union flag (letters, October 28). I believe this may be the only workable idea he has so far come up with for raising standards.

Sincerely,
P. A. BARNARD
(Headteacher),
The Winston Churchill School,
Hermitage Road,
St John's, Woking, Surrey.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 071-782 5046.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
October 29: The Queen this morning arrived at Birmingham New Street Station and was received by Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant for West Midlands (the Earl of Aylesford) and the Lord Mayor of Birmingham (Councillor Paul Tilsley).

Her Majesty, Patron and President, the British Red Cross Society, drove to the International Convention Centre and was received by the Chairman of the Council, British Red Cross Society (the Countess of Limerick), the President, International Committee of the Red Cross, and Chairman, the Council of Delegates (Dr Cornelio Sommaruga), the President, International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (Dr Mario Villarroel) and the President of the Standing Commission (Botho prinz zu Sayn-Wittgenstein).

The Queen was graciously pleased to address the Council of Delegates of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and afterwards honoured the Presidents with her presence at Luncheon.

This afternoon Her Majesty visited the Gas Hall, Chamberlain Square, and was received by the Chairman, Gas Hall Appeal (Mr Patrick Welch) and the Lord Mayor of Birmingham.

After touring the Canaletto Exhibition, escorted by the Director, Birmingham Museums and Art Gallery (Mr Michael Diamond), The Queen unveiled a commemorative plaque. The Lady Susan Hussey, the Rt Hon Sir Robert Fellowes and Major James Patrick were in attendance.

ST JAMES'S PALACE
October 29: The Prince of Wales, President, The Prince's Trust, The Prince's Youth Business Trust and Business in the Community, this morning held a meeting between the trusts and the Secretary of State for Employment (the Rt Hon David Hunt, MP) at St James's Palace.

His Royal Highness afterwards chaired a meeting of the Area Studies Monitoring Group at St James's Palace.

The Prince of Wales this afternoon attended a Luncheon at The Prince of Wales's Institute of Architecture, 14-15 Gloucester Gate, Regent's Park, London NW1.

Mr Stephen Lamport was in attendance.

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE
October 29: The Duchess of Kent, Patron, this morning visited York Civic Trust, Fairfax House, Castlegate, York, and was met on arrival by Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant for North Yorkshire (Sir Marcus Worsley, Bt).

Her Royal Highness this afternoon visited St Monica's Hospital, Easingwold; opened the South Otterington Village Primary School, near Northallerton and visited the Police Headquarters, Newby Wiske, North Yorkshire.

Mrs Julian Tomkins was in attendance.



Vong Phaophanit, one of the four artists shortlisted for the Turner prize, lays out his "Neon Rice Field", in which the translucence of the rice is set off by the glow from neon tubes. An exhibition of the shortlisted works opens at the Tate Gallery, London, on Wednesday and the winner of the £20,000 prize will be announced on November 23

SIMON WALKER

Marriages

Dr T.P. Enevoldson and Miss A.M. Mulligan
The marriage took place in London on Friday, October 29, of Dr Peter Enevoldson and Miss Aynia Mulligan.

Mr P.C. Hibbert and Miss V.A.E. Fass.
The marriage took place on October 25, in France, of Peter Charles Hibbert and Virginia Anne Elizabeth Fass.

Mr D.E. Miller and Miss A. Muir
The marriage took place on Saturday, October 23, in Maidenhead, of Mr David Miller and Miss Annette Muir.

The bride, who was given in marriage by Mr John Shaw, was attended by Mrs Barry Gorst. Mr James Fenner was best man.

A reception was held at Phyllis Court Club, Henley-On-Thames and the honeymoon is being spent in the West Indies.

Lieutenant Colonel Spicer, Scots Guards and Mrs C. Merton
The marriage took place quietly between Tim Spicer, OBE, and Caroline Merton on Friday, October 29, 1993, at Chelsea Register Office.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr R.N. Dean and Miss S.L.E. Thomas
The engagement is announced between Nicholas, elder son of Mr and Mrs Robert Dean, of Lusaka, Zambia, and Sarah, eldest daughter of the Rev Dr Philip and Mrs Thomas, of Heighington, County Durham.

Mr K. Lipscombe and Miss S.J. Whyte
The engagement is announced from Hong Kong, between Karl, of Brisbane, Australia, and Samantha, of Exeter, Devon.

Mr L.M. Mackenzie and Miss G.C. Biddulph
The engagement is announced between Louis, son of Mr and Mrs Alexander Mackenzie, of Cannock Wood, Staffordshire, and Gillian, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Brian Biddulph, of Elkesley, Nottinghamshire.

Mr S.R.C. Ridley-Thomas and Miss D.M. Halliday
The engagement is announced between Simon, younger son of Mr and Mrs Roger Ridley-Thomas, of Bovingdon, Hertfordshire, and Delia, only daughter of Mr Nikolas Halliday, of Farnham, Surrey, and Mrs Dawn O'Donnell, of Chelsea, London.

Mr M.H. Seaton and Miss J.M. Mills
The engagement is announced between Mark, elder son of Mr Ray and Dr Shirley Seaton, now of Menai Bridge, Anglesey, and Jane, twin daughter of the late Mr Peter Mills and of Mrs Mills, of Liphook.

Memorial service

The Right Rev John Daly
A thanksgiving Eucharist for the Right Rev John Daly was celebrated by Canon Peter Delaney yesterday at the Church of All Hallows-by-the-Tower. The Gospel was read by the Primate of Korea, the Epistle was read by the Bishop of Warwick and the lesson was read by Canon Geoffrey Bostock.

The Intercessions were led by Canon Samuel Van Culin, Secretary General of the Anglican Consultative Council. The Right Rev Lord Runcie gave an address. Among those robed and in the choir were the Right Rev Roderic Coote, the Right Rev Leonard Ashton, the Rev Stanley Davies, Canon Roger Williams, the Rev Ian Thurston and the Rev Gualter de Mello.

Dinner

Midland and Oxford Circuit
Mr Richard Wakerley, QC, Leader of the Midland and Oxford Circuit, presided at a dinner given by the circuit bar mess last night at Gray's Inn in honour of Mr Peter Weitzman, QC, former leader.

I Zingari

The Governor's Committee met on Tuesday, October 26. Sir William Becher retired after 40 years as Secretary of I Zingari. Colonel Malcolm Havergal was appointed Secretary and Mr Richard Compton, Chairman of the Cricket Committee.

Birthdays

Today: Sir Charles Brett, former chairman, International Fund for Ireland, 65; Lord Chilver, 67; Sir Robert Clayton, electrical engineer, 78; Sir Robert Easton, chairman, Yarrow Shipbuilders, 71; Sir Christopher Foster, economist, 63; Sir Sydney Giffard, diplomat, 67; Viscount Greenwood, 79; Mr J.S. McGregor, former chairman, Honeywell, 66; M Louis Malle, film director, 61; Mr Guthrie Moir, former controller, educational and religious programmes, Thames Television, 76; Lord Robertson, 81; Sir William Shelton, former MP, 64; Miss Juliet Stevenson, actress, 37; Lieutenant-General Sir Richard Swinburn, 56; Admiral Sir Gordon Tait, 72; Sir David Wilson, former director, British Museum, 62; Mr Michael Winner, film maker, 58.

Tomorrow: Miss Barbara Bel Geddes, actress, 71; Mr Eddie Charlton, snooker player, 64; Mr Michael Collins, astronaut, 63; Mr Hugh Cruttwell, former principal, RADA, 75; Viscount Falmouth, 74; Dr Ian Field, secretary, BMA, 60; Mr Dick Francis, former jockey and author, 73; Mr E.J.H. Gould, headmaster, Marlborough College, 50; Mr John Gunter, theatrical designer, 55; Lord Hardinge of Penshurst, 72; Mr Alastair Hetherington, journalist, 74; Mr H.R.F. Keating, author, 67; Mr Barrie Keeffe, dramatist, 48; Mr Michael Kitchen, actor, 45; Mrs Helen Lessore, painter, 86; Mr John Lowe, jockey, 43; Professor R.F. Mahler, consultant physician, 69; Mr Kevin Mooney, jockey, 39; Mr Charles Moore, editor, *The Sunday Telegraph*, 37; Mr Malise Nicolson, former president, General Council of British Shipping, 72; Sir Jeremy Rowe, former chairman, Occupational Pensions Board, 65; Sir James Savile, broadcaster, 67; Mr John Sweetman, clerk of committees, House of Commons, 63; Sir Derek Thomas, diplomat, 64; Professor John Vallance-Owen, physician, 73; Viscount Waverley, 44; Lady Wilcox, chairman, National Consumer Council, 54.

Service dinners

The Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment
Brigadier W.A. Mackereth, Colonel of The Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment (Berkshire and Wiltshire), presided at the annual dinner held last night at the School of Infantry, Warminster. Major-General B.H. Dutton was the principal guest.

43rd Gurkha Lorried Brigade
Lieutenant-Colonel G.D. Birch, Queen's Gurkha Signals, was the principal guest at a reunion dinner of the 43rd Gurkha Lorried Brigade held yesterday at the Royal Automobile Club. Major W.C. Rogers presided.

Sultan's Armed Forces Association
The Ambassador of Oman was among the guests at the annual dinner of the Sultan's Armed Forces Association held last night at the RAF Club. Colonel Nigel Knocker presided.

Joint Services Air Trooping Centre
Squadron Leader P.R. Haywood presided at a ladies dinner given by the Joint Services' Air Trooping Centre at RAF Stanbridge last night. Wing Commander T.N.J. Pemberton-Pigott, Station Commander, and Lieutenant-Colonel R.A. Lukes, Royal Logistics Corps, also spoke.

Durham University

Former students of the University of Durham (including King's and Armstrong Colleges and the teacher training colleges) should have received recently the Autumn edition of *Kingsgate* — the University's alumni magazine.

Anyone who has not done so is invited to contact the Alumni Relations Office, Old Shire Hall, Durham, DH1 3HP to arrange dispatch of a copy.

Latest wills

Jeffery John Archer, 5th Earl Amherst, of London SW1, left estate valued at £580,174 net.

Anniversaries

Today
BIRTHS: Richard Brinsley Sheridan, dramatist and politician, Dublin, 1751; Alfred Sisley, Impressionist painter, Paris, 1839; Ezra Pound, poet, Hailey, Idaho, 1885.

DEATHS: Edmund Cartwright, inventor of the power loom, Hastings, 1823; John Chubb, safe maker, London, 1872; Jean Henri Dunant, founder of the International Red Cross, Heiden, Switzerland, 1910; Andrew Bonar Law, prime minister 1922-23, London, 1923; Sir Barnes Wallis, engineer, 1979.

The Yeomen of the Guard was founded by King Henry VII, 1485. Mussolini formed a fascist government in Rome, 1922.

Tomorrow
BIRTHS: John Evelyn, diarist, Wotton, Surrey, 1620; Jan Vermeer, painter, Delft, 1632; John Keats, poet, London, 1795; Patrick Chalmers, antiquary, Auldbar Castle, near Brechin, 1802; Joseph Swan, chemist and physicist, Sunderland, 1828; Chiang Kai-Shek, head of the national government in China 1928-49, Chekiang province, 1887.

DEATHS: William Augustus, Duke of Cumberland, general, victor at the Battle of Culloden, London, 1765; Harry Houdini, escapologist and conjurer, Detroit, 1926; Max Reinhardt, stage director, New York, 1943; Augustus John, painter, Fordingbridge, Hampshire, 1961; Indira Gandhi, prime minister of India 1966-77 and 1980-84, assassinated, New Delhi, 1984.

Tonight is All-Hallow's Eve (Hallowe'en).

The Battle of Britain ended, 1940.

Dr Ake Senning implanted the first internal heart pacemaker, Stockholm, 1958.

Appointments

James David Demack to be a full-time Chairman of VAT tribunals.

Jeremy Lee Thomas and Gillian Marguerite Marley to be joint District Judges: Mr Thomas for the districts of the Cardiff, Blackwood, Newport, Bargoed, Chepstow, Monmouth and Pontypool County Courts, and in the District Registry of the High Court at Cardiff, Blackwood and Newport; and Mrs Marley for the districts of the Harrogate and York County Courts, and in the District Registry of the High Court at York.

Church news

Clergy appointments
The Rev Tim Godden, Curate, Tulse Hill, Holy Trinity (Southwark): to be Team Vicar, Horsham Team Ministry (Chichester).

Church services tomorrow

Twenty-first Sunday after Trinity

CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.30 M; 11 S Euch, Canterbury Mass (Piccolo), Ave verum (Byrd), Rev K Leech; 3.15 E, Responses (Leighton), Wood in F, O how glorious (Harwood); 6.30 Sermon & Compline, Rev J H R de Sausmarez.

CARLISLE CATHEDRAL: 10.30 S Euch, Schubert in B flat, Postlude in D minor (Stanford), Canon Ronald Johns; 3 E; 6.30 NP, Mrs Joan Barham.

CHELMSFORD CATHEDRAL: 7.30 MP; 8 HC; 9.30 Parish Communion, Canon Barry Thompson; 11.15 S Euch, Darke in F, O salutaris hostia (Elgar), Rev Jacqui Jones; 6 Choral E, Responses (Morley), O how glorious (Harwood), Canon Paul Brett.

CHESTER CATHEDRAL: 7.45 Litany; 8 HC; 10 Choral M, Dyson in F, Canon Owen Conway; 11.30 Choral Euch, Missa de Angelis, Stanford in B flat, Holy is the true light (Shephard); 3.30 Choral E, Responses (Ayleward), Watson in E, Give us the wings of faith (Bullock); 6.30 E, Canon Owen Conway.

COVENTRY CATHEDRAL: 7.40 MP; 8 Communion; 10.30 Cathedral Euch, Darke in F, O sing joyfully (Batten), Ave verum (Faure), Rev Geoffrey Morgan; 5.30 E & Procession, Holy is the true light (Shephard), Responses (Ayleward), Stanford in C, Give us the wings of faith (Bullock).

DURHAM CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10 M, Responses (Rose), Stanford in B flat, Give us the wings of faith (Bullock), Canon Hodgson; 11.15 HC, Sumsion in F, Ave verum corpus (Byrd), Canon Brown; 3.30 E, Responses (Ayleward), Stanford in B flat, O thou the central orb (Wood).

LEICESTER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10 MP; 10.30 S Euch, Schubert in G, Praise to the God in the highest (Campbell), Ven David Silk; 2.30 Royal Arch Masons Service; 4 Choral E, Responses (Smith), The First Service (Gibbons), Rejoice in the Lord alway (Redford).

LICHFIELD CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10.30 S Euch, Missa Eliensis (Wills), Jubilate 1934 (Britten), Ave Maria (Bruckner), Preb Derek Johnson; 3.30 E, Responses (Reading), St Paul's Service (Howells), The Fair Chivalry (Ashfield).

LLANDAFF CATHEDRAL: 7.30 M & the Litany; 8 HC, The Dean; 9 Parish Euch, The Dean; 11 S Euch, Missa Brevis Capellae Regale (Caesar), Creed (Merbecke), Dignus est Agnus (Williamson), The Canon; 12.15 HC; 3.30 Choral E, Moeran in D, O where shall wisdom be found (Boyce); 6.30 Parish E & Sermon, Rev Boon-Hor Khoo.

SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL: 9 Euch; 11 Choral Euch, Darke in F, The Lord bless you and keep you (Rutter), Nolo mortem peccatoris (Morley), The Provost; 3 E, Stanford in B flat, Justorum animae (Stanford), Canon David Jackson.

TRURO CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9 M, The Treasurer; 10.30 S Euch, Hide not thou face (Farrant), Stanford in C, Listen sweet dove (Ives), Canon Malcolm Brown; 6 E, Responses (Smith), Stanford in A, Ave Maria (Bruckner), The Dean.

WELLS CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.45 S Euch, Darke in E, Verily, verily I say unto you (Tallis), Rev G O Farran; 11.30 M, Stanford in B flat, Cantate Domino (Pitoni); 3 E, Sumsion in G, Sing joyfully (Byrd), Rev C M Bonneywell.

WESTMINSTER ABBEY: 8 HC; 10 M, Te Deum in E (Britten), O Lord give thy Holy Spirit (Tallis), Canon Andrew Radford; 11.15 Abbey Euch, Mass in five parts (Byrd), Sing joyfully (Byrd), Ave verum corpus (Byrd), Canon Anthony Harvey; 3 E, Stanford in A, O how glorious (Harwood), Canon Colin Semper; 5.45 Organ Recital, Stephen Pinnock; 6.30 ES, Meditation and music in Taize style, Rev Jonathan Goodall.

WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL: 7, 8, 9, 12, 5.30, 7 Mass; 10.30 SM, Missa O quam gloriosum (Victoria), O quam gloriosum (Victoria), Beati mundo corde (Byrd), Combat de la mort et de la vie (Messiaen); 10 MP; 2.30 Organ Recital, Iain Simcock; 3.30 SV & B, Magnificat sexti toni (Lassus), Vidi turbam magnam (Palestrina), Force et agilite des Corps Glorieux (Messiaen).

YORK MINSTER: 8, 8.45 HC; 10 S Euch, Hereford Service (Lloyd), O food of men wayfaring (Lloyd), Rev Leon Carberry; 11.30 M, Responses (Smith), Stanford in B flat, Wash me throughly (Wesley); 4 E, Sumsion in G, Blessed City, Heavenly Salem (Bairstow), Canon Ralph Mayland.

ST ASAPH CATHEDRAL, Clwyd: 11 Choral Euch, Darke in A minor, I will love thee (Kalinnikov), Alleluias, Simon Preston, The Dean.

ST GEORGE'S CATHEDRAL, Southwark: 8, 10 (Family), 6 LM; 11.30 SM, O Quam Gloriosum (Victoria), Worthy is the Lamb (Handel), Fr Anthony Richins.

ST GILES' CATHEDRAL, Edinburgh: 8 HC, The Minister; 10 HC, O quam gloriosum (Victoria), The Minister; 11.30 Academic Service, Alleluia, Amen (Leighton), Rev Robert Anderson; 6 St Giles' at 6, Figaro Quartet; 8 HC, Rev J Philip Newell.

ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL, London: 8 HC, Responses (Ashfield); 10.30 M, Harris in A flat, The St Paul's Service (Hendrie), Ven George Cassidy; 11.30 HC, The Rochester Mass (Ferguson), Ave verum corpus (Viadana); 3.15 E, Naylor in D, Laudem dicite Deo (Shepherd), The Dean.

ALL SAINTS, Margaret Street, W1: 8, 5.15 LM; 10.20 MP; 11 HM, Vaughan Williams in G minor, Love bade me welcome (Vaughan Williams), Rev C L Geake; 6 E & B, Dyson in D, O how glorious is the kingdom (Harwood), Rt Rev J Yates.

ALL SOULS, Langham Place, W1: 9 Communion Service; 11 Rev John Cook; 6.30 Rev Dr John Stott.

AMERICAN CHURCH IN LONDON, Tottenham Court Rd, W1: 9.45 Sunday School; 11 Worship, Rev James Schmidt.

THE ASSUMPTION, Warwick Street, W1: 11 Missa O quam gloriosum (Vittoria), *O quam gloriosum* (Vittoria), If ye love me (Tallis).

CHELSEA OLD CHURCH, SW3: 8, 12.15 HC; 10 Children's Service; 11 M, Give us the wings of faith to rise (Bullock), Rt Rev Hugh Montefiore; 6 E, Voluntary in G (Boyce), Rev P Elvy.

CROWN COURT CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, Covent Garden, WC2: 11.15, 6.30 Rev Stanley Hood.

FARM STREET, W1: 7.30, 8.30, 10, 12.15, 4.15, 6.15 LM; 11 HM.

THE ORATORY, Brompton Road, SW7: 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 Mass, 12.30, 4.30, 7; 3.30 V & B.

WESLEY'S CHAPEL, City Road, EC2: 9.45 HC; 11 Morning Service, Rev Paul Hulme.

WESTMINSTER CENTRAL HALL (Methodist), SW1: 11, 6.30, Rev Dr R J Tudor.

ST ANNE AND ST AGNES (Lutheran), Gresham St, EC2: 11 Choral HC, Rev R T Englund; 7 Reformation Day Choral HC, Lutheran Chorale & Organ Mass (Lea-Cox), Rev Dr Jose Fuliga.

ST BARTHOLOMEW THE GREAT, Smithfield, EC1: 9 HC; 11 City of London Yeomanry Commemoration, Responses (Smith), O quam gloriosum (Victoria), Rev Anthony Winter; 6.30 E, Responses (Smith), Farrant in A minor, Justorum animae (Lassus), Rev Anthony Winter.

ST BRIDE'S, Fleet Street, EC4: 11 Choral M & Euch, Jubilate (Gardner), O quam gloriosum (Victoria), How beautiful upon the mountains, Rev Noel Vincent; 6.30 Choral E, Responses (Tomkins), Brewer in D, Komm Jesu komm (Bach), Canon John Oates.

ST CLEMENT DANES: 9 HC; 11 Choral Euch, Darke in F, O quam gloriosum (Victoria), Rev G B McAvoy.

ST COLUMBA'S CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, Pont Street, SW1: 11, 3 The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, Rev J H McIndoe; 6.30 Rev W A Cairns.

ST GEORGE'S, Hanover Square, W1: 8.30 HC; 11 S Euch, Mozart in D, Ave verum (Mozart), The Rector.

ST JAMES'S, Sussex Gardens, W2: 8 HC; 10.30 S Euch, Little Organ Mass (Haydn), And as Moses (Stainer), Rev Graham Buckle; 6 Choral E, Short Service (Causton), O God my King (Amner), Rev Bill Wilson.

ST LUKE'S, Chelsea, SW3: 8 HC; 10 HC, Missa Petre Ego (Lobo), O quam gloriosum (Victoria), Fugue in the Dorian mode (Bach), Rev Derek Watson; 6.30 Choral E, O how glorious (Harwood), Fanfares and Antiphons (Brent Weaver), Rev Gerald Beauchamp.

ST MARK'S, Regents Park Rd, NW1: 8 HC; 10 Family Communion; 11 S Euch, Stanford in C, Almighty and everlasting God (Gibbons), Rev Tom Devonshire Jones.

ST MARGARET'S, Westminster, SW1: 11 S Euch, Collegium Regale (Howells), Salve Regina (Howells), Sister Hilary Markey.

ST MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS, WC2: 8 HC; 9.45 Euch, Litany for all saints (Plainsong), St Martin's Service (Stringer), Heralds of Christ (Ashfield), St Patrick's Breastplate (Stanford), Rev Claire Wilson, Toccata (Whitlock); 11.30 Visitors to London Service, O taste and see (Vaughan Williams), Responses (Lane), O how glorious (Harwood), Allegretto grazioso (Bridge), The Vicar; 2.45 Chinese Service, Rev Gilbert Lee; 5 Choral E, O quam gloriosum (Vittoria), Responses (Sumsion), Noble in E minor, Blessed be the God and Father (Wesley), Lied (Vierne); 6.30 ES, Prelude in E minor (Bach), The Vicar.

ST MARY'S, Bourne Street, SW1: 9, 9.45, 7 LM; 11 HM, Messe Solennelle in C sharp minor (Vierne), Fr Philip Chester; 6 E & B.

ST MARY-THE-VIRGIN, Primrose Hill: 8 HC; 10.30 Parish Euch, Communion Service in D (Leighton), God so loved the world (Stainer), Rev Lyndon van der Pump; 6 E.

ST MARYLEBONE, Marylebone Road, W1: 8 HC; 11 Choral Euch for All Saints, Missa Solemnis (Mozart), Rev Ian Brown.

ST MICHAEL'S, Cornhill, EC3: 11 Choral Euch, Mass a 4 (Byrd), Christe Jesu pastor bone (Taverner).

ST PAUL'S, Wilton Place, SW1: 8, 9 HC; 11 S Euch, The Liverpool Service (Rawsthorne), Out of the deep (Byrd), Dup Seraphim (Poss), Rev Neil Dawson.

ST PETER'S, Eaton Square, SW1: 8.15 HC; 10 Family Euch; 11 S Euch, Dedication of the new organ, Messe Solennelle (Langlais), Offertoire (Couperin), Rev Fr Ashley Buck.

ST STEPHEN'S, Gloucester Road, SW7: 8, 9 LM; 11 SM, Missa O Quam Gloriosum (Victoria), O Quam gloriosum est regnum (Victoria), Gaudent in Coelis (Victoria), Fr John Towers; 6 E & B.

CHAPEL ROYAL OF ST PETER AD VINCULA, HM Tower of London: 9.15 HC; 11 M & Sermon, Responses (Leighton), Te Deum (Chant), Stanford in B flat, Let all mortal flesh keep silence (Bairstow), Canon J G M W Murphy.

CHAPEL ROYAL, St James's Palace: 8.30 HC; 11.15 MP, Vox dicentis (Naylor), Rev J C Priestley.

CHAPEL ROYAL, Hampton Court Palace: 8.30 HC; 11 M, Ireland in C, Let thy merciful ears (Mudd); 3.30 E, Justorum animae (Stanford), Murrill in E, And I saw a new heaven (Bainton).

GROSVENOR CHAPEL, South Audley Street, W1: 11 S Euch, Missa O Quam Gloriosum (Victoria), Gaudent in coelis (Philips), Dialogue in C (Marchand), Rev Peter Laister.

QUEEN'S CHAPEL OF THE SAVOY, WC2: 11 M, Cole in E minor, What are these (Gray), Sir Peter Imbert QPM; 12.20 HC.

THE TEMPLE CHURCH, Fleet Street: 8.30 HC; 11.15 HC, Stanford in C & F, Sacerdotes Domini (Byrd), The Creed (Merbecke), Let all mortal flesh keep silence (Bairstow), Coronation in B flat (Stanford), Rhapsody in C sharp minor (Howells), The Master.

GUARDS CHAPEL, Wellington Barracks, SW1: 11 M, Peace perfect peace (Gibbons), Ascribe unto the Lord (Wesley), Fanfare and Soliloquy (Sharpe), The Irish Guards, The Chaplain; 12 HC.

ROYAL NAVAL COLLEGE CHAPEL, Greenwich, SE10: 11 S Euch, O Bone Jesu (Palestrina), Lead me Lord (Wesley), The Chaplain.

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James 4 : 12. (REB)

BIRTHS

CLARK - On 22nd October 1993, to Jamie and Joanna, a son, James Barton Clarkson.

CLIFTON-BROWN - On October 27th, to Emily (née Oliver) and Colin, a daughter, a sister to George.

CROUCHER - On Thursday 21st October, to Nigel and Kate (née Ackerman), a son, Thomas Charles Edward, 8lbs 1oz. Thank you to all staff at Southmead Hospital, Bristol.

HIDDLESTON - On October 25th, to Sally-Ann (née MacKinnon) and Nicholas John, a daughter, Ella, a sister for Anna Frances.

INGELL - On 8th October, to Martin and Sally (née Jones), a daughter, Amelia Charlotte Alice.

KEANE - On October 24th at the Wellington Hospital, to Patricia (née Godfrey) and David, a daughter, Kathryn.

LINDUP - On 27/10/1993, to Janice and Tim, a beautiful daughter, Georgina.

MORI - On October 24th at The Portland Hospital, to Aya (née Takase) and Gordon, a lovely son, Blake, brother to Andrew and Christopher, was born.

MOULD - On October 22nd at St Mary's Hospital, Paddington, to Anthony and Harriet, two sons.

OBOLENSKY - To Prince and Princess Nicholas a daughter Isabella on 28th October, a sister for Alexei.

PARKER-JERVIS - On 20th October, to Victoria (née Hutchison) and Andrew, a daughter, Holly Audrey.

WELLS - On 22nd October, to Simon and Margaret (née Kelleher), a daughter, Megan Kasane, a sister for Katherine Brittany.

MARRIAGES

ROBINSON:HUTCHINS - The marriage of John and Margaret was celebrated at the Church of St John the Baptist, Clay Hill, Enfield, on Friday 29th October.

RUBY ANNIVERSARIES

FRASER-DARLING:BROWN - On October 31st 1953, at Christchurch, Lochgilphead, Argyll, Alasdair (Lt RAMC) to Mary.

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARIES

MANSON:CHAPPLE - On October 30th 1943 at the Church of the Holy Redeemer, Ambala, Punjab, James B. Manson to Phyllis M. Chapple.

WALSH:RITCHIE - On October 30th 1943 at Christ Church, Royal Pindi Punjab, Major Edward Geoffrey Wyatt Tull Walsh, PAVO Cavalry (11th FF) Indian Army, to Margaret Stewart Ritchie. Now at Victoria House, Akeley, Buckingham.

DEATHS

BARNES - On 28th October 1993, peacefully at home, Margaret, beloved wife of Phil and dearly loved mother of Jennifer, Elizabeth and Philip. Requiem Mass at Church of the Sacred Heart, Hove, at 12 noon on Wednesday November 3rd, followed by cremation at the Downs Crematorium. Cut flowers or donations in lieu to the MacMillan Nurses c/o Attree & Kent, 108 Church Road, Hove.

BRIGGS - On 28th October, at her home, Frances Emilie Briggs M.B.E., secretary to The Old Vic Theatre and the Drama League 1919-1954, daughter of the late Colonel John Briggs. Funeral Service, St George's Church, Brede, East Sussex, Thursday 4th November at 2pm. Family flowers only by request.

CHAPMAN - George, painter, peacefully at home near Aberaeron, on October 28th, aged 85.

COULSON - Violet (Bunty), peacefully at home on 28th October, in her 77th year, beloved wife of the late John Coulson, mother of Lindsay, Bridget and Nicholas and grandmother of eight. Funeral at St Benedict's Church, Stratton-on-the-Fosse, at 11.30 am on Tuesday 2nd November. Flowers or donations for Dorothy House Hospice Bath, c/o E. Emery & Son, Funeral Directors, Ashwick, Oakhill, near Bath, tel: (0749) 840350.

FELDBERG - On October 23rd 1993, Wilhelm Feldberg F.R.S., C.B.E., passed peacefully away at home. Donations if desired to The Edith Bulbring Trust, Treasurer, Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford.

FITZHERBERT - On October 27th as the result of a car accident, Yvo Lawrence Michael aged 74. Darling husband of June and much loved by his daughters Gail and Fiona and son David and by his five grandchildren. Private burial followed by Thanksgiving Service at St Michael's Church, Brinkworth, at 12 noon November 2nd. No flowers, but if you wish, please plant a tree.

LITTLE - Betty died peacefully at home on October 28th after a brief illness. Beloved wife of Michael and much loved mother of Richard, Elizabeth, David, Peter and Philip. Funeral at St Agnes Church, Liss, Hants, on November 2nd at 12.30. No flowers please, but donations if desired to The Macmillan Service, c/o Funeral Services (Petersfield), 19 The Square, Petersfield, Hants, GU32 3HR.

MILLER - Tony, on October 27th 1993 peacefully in his sleep at St George's Nursing Home, Pimlico, London. Beloved husband of Pamela, father of Barry. Private cremation at 5 pm Thursday 4th November, West Chapel, Golders Green.

REMNANT - On October 25th, very peacefully and fortified by the Rites of the Holy Church in the Chelsea and Westminster Hospital, Joan Winifred aged 91 years. Greatly loved by her husband the late Eustace, daughter Mary and countless friends. Requiem Mass at Our Lady of Dolours Servite Church, 264 Fulham Road, Kensington, London SW10, on Monday November 1st at 12 noon. If desired, flowers to W.H. Buckle and Son, 246 Fulham Road, London SW10, by 11 am, or donations to LIFE, Life House, Newbold Terrace, Leamington Spa, CV32 4EA.

ROWBOTTOM - Mary, 84, of Kensington, died 22nd October, greatly beloved mother of Jack. Gentle, extraordinary woman held dear by family, friends and all her pupils through 61 years. Funeral, Golders Green, Tuesday 2nd November 4 pm. No flowers, donations to the Carers Nat. Assoc., 29 Chilworth Mews, W2.

IN MEMORIAM – PRIVATE

GRAY - On her birthday, Felicity Gray (1914-1986). Dancer, Choreographer, Teacher, Wife and Mother. Now rejoined by her beloved Willoughby, "inspired by the love and partnership of your marriage".

PUBLIC NOTICES

CHARITY COMMISSION
Charity - The Central Bureau for Educational Visits and Exchanges
The Commissioners propose to make a Scheme for this Charity. A copy of the draft Scheme can be obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to St. Alban's House, 57/60 Haymarket, London SW1Y 4QX quoting reference number ND-310011/1-CD(Ldn2). Comments or representations can be made within one month from today.

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Charity - The Lefevre Trust
The Commissioners propose to make a Scheme for this Charity. A copy of the draft Scheme can be seen at the Central Bureau, Seymour Mews House, Seymour Mews, London, W1H 9PE, or can be obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to St. Alban's House, 57/60 Haymarket, London SW1Y 4QX quoting reference number FOA-1003866A/1-CD(Ldn4). Comments or representations can be made within one month from today.

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CANFARONE, FRANCESCA EMILIA ANTONIA (also known as FRANCES) of 3 Meadow Road, Bushey, Hertfordshire died on 7th July 1993: Particulars to Wright Morris & Co Solicitors of 1 Lochaline Street, London W6 9SJ before 31st December 1993.

FISZPAN, JOSEPH of 22 Rundell Crescent, London NW4 3BP died on 10th December 1991 Particulars to White Ryland Solicitors of 84 Coldhawk Road, London W12 2BR (Attn: Mrs E Ryland) before 31st December 1993.

TAYLOR (formerly JONES) LESLEY JUNE late of 31 Bartock Close Basingstoke Hampshire Died 20th June 1992 Administrator: David Gerald Taylor. Particulars to: Messrs Edward Oliver & Bellis, 19 Broadway Market Fencepiece Road, Barkingside, Ilford, Essex by 2nd January 1994.

UNDERWOOD, REGINALD ERNEST of 117 Mallinson Road, Battersea, London SW11 1BL died on 28th April 1993: Particulars to H.G.L. Hanne & Co. Solicitors of 281 Lavender Hill, London SW11 8TH before 31st December 1993.

VISCOUNTESS ROTHERMERE, THE RIGHT HONOURABLE PATRICIA EVELYN BEVERLEY late of Flats A & F, 86 Eaton Square, London SW1; 63 Cadogan Gardens, London SW3 2RA; Streeds, Herons Ghyll, nr Uckfield, Sussex and Flat 18C Bedford Towers, Cavendish Place, Brighton BN1 2JG who died on 12th August 1992: Particulars to Boodle Hatfield, 43 Brook Street, London W1Y 2BL by 21st January 1994.

WILLIAM JOHN PATTON late of Flat 2, 3 Vicarage Gate, London W8 Died 14th September 1991: Executors: John Howard Walford and Aidan Patton Particulars to Frere Cholmeley Bischoff 4 John Carpenter Street, London EC4Y 0NH Ref. MDP/JLG by 2nd January 1994.

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OBITUARIES

DORIS DUKE

Doris Duke, once known as "the richest woman in the world," died in Beverly Hills on October 28 aged 80. She was born in Manhattan on November 22, 1912.



Doris Duke arriving in New York in 1948

WHEN the tobacco and utility mogul *James Buchanan Duke realised he* was on his death bed, in 1925, he called for his sole heir and daughter, Doris, then nearly 13. "Trust no one," he urged. "Even if you feel certain someone may deserve your trust, don't do it. That is life's first rule. Follow it, and you'll never be disappointed." In the seventy years since that scene, Doris Duke trusted a handful of people, but not for long.

She was a canny businesswoman who invested shrewdly and left much more than the £30 million she inherited. The inevitable comparisons with Howard Hughes and Barbara Hutton, another "poor little *rich girl" do her a disservice. Like* Hughes, Doris Duke tended towards the reclusive in later life, and was paranoid about her privacy, swearing *her employees to secrecy*, and travelling in old clothes and dark glasses. But she was nowhere near as eccentric as Hughes, nor as unbalanced as Hutton. Her life nevertheless presented its fair share of tragedies, wrecked relationships and unconsummated artistic projects.

Unable to find contentment in marriage, she turned to mystic Eastern religions and enjoyed slumming it on the margins of intellectual and social life. She corresponded with Einstein and partied with the Kennedys, and yet seemed to be taken in by charlatans and quacks. "She loves people who have one foot in the grave or are in trouble with the law" said a friend.

Corresponding with her love of the high and low social life, and her abhorrence of the respectable middle, Duke was well known for being recklessly extravagant on the one-hand and breathtakingly mean on the other. She once left jewellery worth over £5,300 in the back of a taxi, but would haggle over the price of a $10 fare from the airport.

Doris Duke was an only child, and her father worshipped her, lavishing millions on buying her everything she could possible want. Once, on a visit to England, the young Doris was impressed by the ruins of an old castle. Her father promptly had another one demolished, transported, and built back up, brick by brick, on the grounds of their New Jersey estate. It was, at the same time, a lonely childhood. Guards were posted around the estate — no strangers were allowed to enter — and wherever she went, Doris was followed by a private detective. Her father's terror of germs led him to build a private railway coach for his daughter which not even the train conductor was allowed to enter.

Surprisingly Doris Duke grew into a sensible and practical young woman with a good business head and a keen sense of values — except where it came to choosing husbands. She admitted to being married twice. The first man in her life was the socialite James Cromwell — divorced and 16 years her senior when she first met him at the age of 17 in the seaside resort of Bar Harbour.

Her mother immediately tried to *break up the affair by taking her to* Europe, but Cromwell followed and two years after Doris came of age, in 1935, they married. It was not purely a love match from his point of view — on their first night together, he asked what he might expect his annual income to be — but they had a daughter, Arden, who died shortly after her birth in 1940.

Cromwell, however, had political ambitions, and persuaded his wife to support Roosevelt's presidential campaign. The result, when Roosevelt came to office, was Cromwell's appointment as Minister to Canada. Doris quickly became bored with *embassy life, reluctantly paying for* the wines and flowers and crawling through the embassy windows at night to escape for romantic trysts. After eight years of this, she had an indiscreet affair with an unnamed British MP in a move calculated to shock the political establishment and ruin her husband's chances of running for senate. They divorced in 1943.

Doris Duke's second husband, whom she married in 1947, was the wealthy Dominican diplomat, polo player and international playboy, Porfirio Rubirosa. She bought him a polo team, but the couple divorced 13 months later (he went on to marry Barbara Hutton). In 1954 a third husband came to light — one whom Doris Duke never publicly acknowledged — an ex-band leader called Joseph Castro, whom, Castro claimed, she had secretly married twice. Castro sued for divorce and damages in 1964, alleging that she had stabbed him with a butcher's knife, but later dropped the actions and the outcome was never made public.

Perhaps aware of her romantic mistakes, Doris Duke decided never to marry again, contenting herself with a series of affairs, including one with Errol Flynn. In 1966 another *man in her life met a tragic end. In* what was eventually ruled an accident, Doris was behind the wheel of a car that drove over and crushed to death Edward Tirella, her "dear friend and designer".

Her primary escort during the 1970s and 1980s was Franco Rossellini of the Italian opera and film-making family. Rossellini and Doris travelled the world together, regularly visiting Imelda Marcos in the Philippines — one of Doris Duke's closest friends. It was said that Doris Duke taught Imelda the art of shopping. For more than ten years, nobody at Doris Duke's business office dared tell her that it was she and not Rossellini who was paying for his ostentatious presents of flowers, chocolates and long-distance telephone calls — when she was eventually informed that he had been charging everything to her bill she broke off the relationship. Her friendship with Imelda Marcos fared somewhat better. When the ex-president's wife was charged with embezzlement in 1988, it was Doris Duke who put up the £2,750,000 bail.

Doris Duke did her best to hide her enormous wealth, hoarding up her priceless collection of oriental art and furnishings behind non-profit making foundations and "museums", which she reluctantly opened to the public in order to keep them tax-exempt. The bulk of her estate, valued well in excess of $1 billion, will go to charity.

ERICH HARTMANN



Former enemies meet: Erich Hartmann, in the cockpit of a Spitfire, with Peter Townsend, right, and the American Ace Don Volkmer in 1971

Erich Hartmann, second world war German fighter ace, died on September 20 aged 71. He was born in Weissach, near Stuttgart, on April 19, 1922.

ERICH "Bubi" Hartmann was known throughout Nazi Germany as the "Blond Knight," a hero not only of the skies but also of the propaganda newsreels. His remarkable achievement of downing 350 aircraft — most of them Russian — and his boyish blond looks made him a favourite of *Adolf Hitler, who rarely lost* an opportunity to be photographed next to the fighter ace.

Contemporaries say that Hartmann seemed to have almost no fear in the cockpit. He would speed into close *combat and open fire only at* the very last moment. His favourite aircraft was the ME109 which gave him a *clear advantage over Soviet* aircraft on the Eastern Front. But his marksmanship was so accurate that he took his toll *even of the technically superi*or American Mustangs.

Hartmann, was brought up in China where his father worked as a doctor. He was in his early teens when the family returned to Germany and he was seized by his mother's love of flying. Germany was secretly rearming in the 1930s and no great obstacles were put in front of a teenager wanting to fly. By the age of 16 — in 1938 — Hartmann was not only an accomplished pilot but also a fully-qualified gliding instructor. Shortly after his 18th birthday he joined the Luftwaffe and started his career as a fighter pilot.

Some of the aircraft that German pilots claimed to have shot down over the Eastern Front were not certain "kills". As the war against Russia ran into trouble, so the German propaganda machine exaggerated the score of victories. Yet few experts questioned Hartmann's claims: he was fast, accurate — and very lucky. On the occasion of his 300th confirmed strike, Adolf Hitler added the "Diamond" insignia to his Knight's Cross.

The success went somewhat to his head: as a squadron commander in Russia he was constantly at loggerheads with senior officers and rarely hid his contempt for them. Hitler's protection and the constant stream of successful combat missions ensured that nothing happened to him. Hartmann scored his last victory on the day that the war ended in Europe. He had flown a total of 1,400 combat missions.

Hartmann was arrested by the Russians in Czechoslovakia and was later sentenced to 25 years' hard labour in Ivanovo. *Moscow said he was being* punished for the destruction of 345 Soviet aircraft. In fact, various high-ranking Russian *officers had offered him free*dom if he were prepared to settle in East Germany and help to train the East German air force. He refused the offer and stayed in the camp. In October 1955 was he freed, and allowed finally to return to Germany.

Hartmann was still relatively young and he fitted easily into the structure of the new West German air force. Given the rank of major at the age of 37 he was made commander of the Richthofen fighter squadron, the first such unit set up in West Germany.

By the early 1960s his life had slowed down. Married, with a daughter, his former razor-sharp reflexes had become rather dulled. In 1963 he was appointed to an administrative job as "tactical inspector of the air force".

Hartmann was promoted to colonel and took early retirement in 1970. For several years he worked as chief instructor in a private flying school near Bonn.

SIR WILLIAM PATON

Sir William Paton, CBE, FRS, Emeritus Professor of Pharmacology at Oxford University, died on October 17 aged 76. He was born on May 5, 1917.



WILLIAM PATON was an academic who made a signifi*cant contribution to modern* medical science. It was owing to his research that ways were found of relaxing muscles *during surgery and that meth*ods were discovered of protecting deep-sea divers from the the neurological effects of high pressure. He also enjoyed some celebrity during the 1960s by coming out strongly against cannabis as a drug possessing beneficial effects.

William Drummond Macdonald Paton was the third son of the Rev William Paton and Grace MacKenzie Paton. He went to school at Winchester House, Brackley, and at Repton. He was a scholar of New College, Oxford, where he obtained first-class honours in physiology in 1938 and then completed his medical education at University College Hospital, London. He was an exceptional undergraduate, winning the Theodore Williams, Christopher Welch and Jesse Theresa Rowden scholarships and then, at UCL, he won the Goldsmid exhibition in 1939 and the Gold Medal in clinical medicine in 1941. He was editor of the University College Hospital magazine.

In 1942 he qualified BM, BCh (Oxon). For about two years he worked as pathologist at King Edward VII sanatorium and then in 1944 he joined the scientific staff of the National Institute for Medical Research. There in the department of pharmacology he worked for eight years and did some of his finest work. In 1952 he became *Reader in Pharmacology at* University College and University College Hospital Medical School; in 1954 he was appointed Professor of Pharmacology at the Royal College of Surgeons of England and in 1959 he succeeded J. H. Burn as Professor of Pharmacology *at the University of Oxford,* retiring in 1984.

Paton's name will always remain associated with two *outstanding discoveries in* pharmacology: his work, together with Nora Zaimis, former professor of *pharmacology at the Royal* Free Hospital on methonium compounds, and his work, together with F. MacIntosh, former professor of physiology at McGill, Montreal, on histamine liberators. As a result of these discoveries he was elected a fellow of the Royal Society in 1956, and in the same year, he and Zaimis were jointly awarded the Cameron prize for their work on the methonium compounds.

By showing that some of these compounds, for instance, decamethonium, blocked transmission at the neuromuscular junction; that others, like the hexamethonium, had the same effect at the sympathetic ganglia; and by analysing in each case the kind of block produced, a new field in pharmacology was opened up which led to the search for similarly acting drugs. Since then every textbook of pharmacology has *devoted a chapter or two to* these blocking agents.

Paton's paper of 1951 on the neuromuscular block by decamethonium, which shows him *to have been an ingenious and* exceptionally skilful experimenter, will for a long time to come be recommended to students as a classical analysis of a pharmacological action of a drug. The work on the methonium compounds has had a wide clinical impact, because neuromuscular blocking agents are used in anaesthesia and in intensive care to permit artificial ventilation. Many people also owe their lives to Paton's work on the ganglian blocking action of hexamethonium, because drugs with this kind of action are life-saving in malignant hypertension.

Paton's work on histamine liberators established a new class of pharmacologically active substances which provided a valuable tool for research on histamine. This potent substance, whose physiological function is not yet fully understood, is present in an inactive form in most animal tissues including the brain. Three other important contributions by Paton deserve special mention. During his years at the Royal College of Surgeons, he developed an ingenious yet relatively simple *method for exciting nervous* structures in the walls of the gastro-intestinal tract. The site and mode of action of various drugs, such as morphine, affecting mobility of stomach and gut have been successfully analysed with this method. During his years at Oxford Paton became deeply interested in the properties of the tissue receptors for acetylcholine. With H. P. Rang he was the first to perform a rigorous analysis of the binding of a drug to a tissue which showed that the binding does reflect the functional changes induced by the drug: this work began a whole new field in pharmacology.

A life-long interest in drug-dependence led him to study the pharmacology of cannabis — of which he emerged as an authoritative critic — but probably his most important contribution while at Oxford was the discovery, with K. W. Miller and E. B. Smith, that the neurological symptoms affecting deep-sea divers *were directly due to the high* pressures used and to the prediction that the effects could be antagonised by the *addition of a gas (nitrogen)* that is an anaesthetic at these high pressures. The addition of nitrogen to helium and *oxygen to give the so-called* "Tri-mix" has allowed divers to work at depths of over 2,000 feet. No better example could be given of how a basic principle of pharmacology (the antagonism between pressure and anaesthesia) can be applied to enrich a country. Without Tri-mix the exploitation of the oil and gas fields in the North Sea would have been very difficult.

His headship of the Department of Pharmacology at Oxford was characterised by his encouragement of the young graduate students to emulate the very high standards in research (four fellows of the Royal Society out of a staff of six) and by his quiet but strong championship of the discipline of pharmacology in the university. The subject became the most popular option for third-year medical students and his foresight led to the allocation of a plot of land upon which *the present department now* stands. He was a respected fellow of his college (Balliol) and he was not at all happy *when the university moved the* chair to another college after he retired.

The country owes a great debt to Bill Paton for his largely hidden work on committees: at one time he realised that he served on 72 and chaired many of them. Although he served as an adviser to many government bodies and was a Justice of the Peace, perhaps his most important work was as a trustee of the Wellcome Trust, as director of the Wellcome Institute for the History of Medicine and as *chairman of the Research* Defence Society. It is fortunate that he left his thoughts in *Man and Mouse: Animals in Medical Research* (1984).

William Paton was appointed CBE in 1968 and was knighted in 1979. He is survived by his wife Phoebe whom he married in 1942.

GIDSKE ANDERSON

Gidske Anderson, Norwegian author and journalist who was deputy leader of the committee that awards the Nobel Peace Prize, died on October 19 aged 71. She was born in Oslo on November 4, 1921.

GIDSKE ANDERSON had been on the secretive five-member Nobel peace prize committee since 1982, and led *it in 1990, when the prize went* to then Soviet president Mikhail Gorbachev for his part in ending the Cold War. She stepped down in January 1991 to become deputy leader.

She wrote some 20 books, including biographies of prominent Norwegians, poetry, travel stories and an account of her first battle with cancer called *Det hente meg* ("It Happened to Me"). Having graduated from the National College of Arts, Crafts and Design in 1940, she worked on resistance movement newspapers during the Nazi occupation of Norway.

In 1948 she became Paris correspondent for the Oslo newspaper *Arbeiderbladet* and from 1956 was also a correspondent for the Norwegian state radio network, NRK. *In 1964 she moved to* New York where she worked as a freelance correspondent until 1967. From 1964 until 1967, she was a freelance correspondent in New York. Later, she worked for NRK and *Arbeiderbladet*, mainly in foreign postings before returning to Oslo in 1981. She never married.

PERSONAL COLUMN

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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ROYAL VARIETY PERFORMANCE

THE QUEEN AT THE VICTORIA PALACE

The Queen, accompanied by Princess Margaret and the Duchess of Gloucester, last night attended the Royal Variety Performance at the Victoria Palace theatre in aid of the Variety Artists' Benevolent Fund.

The headquarters of the Crazy Gang would seem a natural stage from which to proclaim the doctrine of the British music-hall *redivivus*, and the bill, though it receives a welcome reinforcement from certain foreign acts at present appearing in London, on this occasion has made no special importations. Such courage justifies itself. With Messrs. Flanagan, Nervo, Knox, and the rest of the band to provide that atmosphere of friendly mockery and simple absurdity without which a music-hall is only half itself, and with the vitality Miss Cicely Courtneidge celebrates *in a* dashing scene from *Gay's The Word* everywhere in evidence, there was, if not an absolute guarantee of success, at least a strong pre-supposition of it.

There is less need to lament the dearth of Lancashire comedians when we have before us the abundant Mr. Norman Evans, who has only to lean over a wall to recover for us the conversational raciness of Lancashire backyards and the life which surely teems in them. Mr. Jimmy Edwards, working a popular vein carries on the comic line in schoolmastering originated by Mr. Will Hay; Mr. Arthur English taps the latest source of music-hall humour, the "spiv"; Mr. Jack Radcliffe represents the older bucolic school, pathetic monologue and all.

Humour bobs up in all sorts of other items too — in Miss Florence Desmond's wicked mimicry, of course, and in the Wiere Brothers, natural drolls who improve upon nature, in Miss Gracie Fields, and in such visitors from the broadcasting studios as Mr. Richard Murdoch and Mr. Kenneth Horne.

ON THIS DAY

October 30 1951

Though this Royal Variety Performance offered a fine selection of talent, a connoisseur might hanker after Emlyn Williams's Dickensian tour de force at Hammersmith.

LYRIC THEATRE, HAMMERSMITH
MR. EMLYN WILLIAMS AS CHARLES DICKENS

When Dickens gave his readings he had the *inestimable advantage of having created the* characters himself and then, as a talented and enthusiastic actor with a splendid voice, recreated them for an audience, identifying himself with his own creations. Mr. Emlyn *Williams, who last night appeared as Dickens* in a series of six extracts from his works at a reproduction of the author's reading desk (complete with water, white gloves, and arm rest), had to attack the material from outside, but he gave a performance of such astonishing virtuosity that Mr. Podsnap and his Young Person, Paul Dombey and Miss Cornelia Blimber, Bob Sawyer and Mrs. Raddle, Toby Magsman and Chops the dwarf and the frightened signalman seemed real, vital and authentic.

The variety of the choice would be enough to daunt any accomplished actor, but Mr. *Williams took in his stride a selection from* Dickens's widest range of achievements.

THE TIMES TODAY SATURDAY OCTOBER 30 1993

NEWS

Plan to revive Ulster peace talks

■ John Major and Albert Reynolds agreed to launch a fresh attempt to bring peace to Northern Ireland. They suggested that they would talk to the IRA if it abandoned violence.

The two leaders vowed to try to revive the stalled talks between the constitutional parties and said there could be no question of their adopting the report of the dialogue between the SDLP and Sinn Fein ..... Pages 1, 2

Monetary union is 'unstoppable'

■ Helmut Kohl, the German chancellor, brushed aside John Major's doubts about a single currency by declaring that the drive towards monetary union was "unstoppable". EC leaders formally confirmed the "objective" of economic and monetary union "by the end of the century" ..... Pages 1, 12

MP's pay row

Tory backbenchers and trade unions condemned proposals to increase MPs' salaries by almost twice the inflation rate ..... Page 1

NHS charges

Big rises in National Health Service charges are expected from next April as part of the Chancellor's efforts to contain spending below £253.6 billion ..... Page 1

Jubilee go-ahead

The government approved one of the biggest construction projects of the decade, the £1.8 billion extension to the Underground's Jubilee Line ..... Page 1

Women priests

The ordination of women priests into the Church of England was overwhelmingly backed by the House of Commons ... Pages 1, 10

Singer's plea

George Michael told the High Court that his American record company saw him as a difficult British artist when he tried to swap his raunchy image for one to woo adults ..... Page 3

RSI dispute

Medical and legal experts are divided over the existence of repetitive strain injury, following the ruling given by Judge Prosser QC in the High Court ..... Page 5

BNP seeks new base

The British National Party is planning to expand its operations by opening a new base in Reigate, Surrey ..... Page 7

Smaller pint

Britain's ale drinkers were angry after the government announced that a pint of beer could include 5 per cent of froth ..... Page 8

Quebec threat

The Bloc Québécois, the party likely to form the official opposition in Canada's new parliament, will work to bring about independence for Quebec, and thus the break-up of Canada, "as soon as possible" ..... Page 13

Angola tragedy

The smell of death fills the hospital in Cuito, a once charming Angolan town where half the population has been killed ... Page 14

East End returns to its roots

■ The East End of London, a place of folk myth, wartime stoicism, Jack the Ripper, Petticoat Lane, the Bloody Tower, *EastEnders*, jellied eels and, sometimes ugly racism, may soon call itself . . . the East End. Officially the area is Tower Hamlets but civic leaders want to restore its traditions ..... Page 1

ADRIAN BROOKS



Mourners at the grave of Lord Grimond, the former Liberal leader, after a funeral service at Kirkwall. Clement Freud, page 3

BUSINESS

Heartbreak hotels: Queens Moat Houses, Britain's third largest hotel combine, suffered a pre-tax loss of £101.5 million for 1992 which, after taking account of exceptional items of £939 million, rises to a near record breaking loss for a UK corporation of more than £1 billion ..... Page 21

Canary Wharf: Bankers to the rejuvenated Dockland development say they are prepared to pump in more money to ensure its success after the lifting of an administration order ..... Page 21

Rate hopes dashed: The prospect of an early cut in interest rates dimmed as Eddie George, governor of the Bank of England, said UK rates were currently at an appropriate level given government financial targets ..... Page 21

Markets: Sterling rose .97 cents to $1.4882 and .05 pfennigs to DM2.4950. The FT-SE 100 index was up 8 at 3,171 ..... Page 24

SPORT

Basketball: Simon Barnes meets Shaquille O'Neal, the hottest, richest star of his sport. Famous in the United States for playing basketball, famous in this country for being famous ..... Page 36

Rugby Union: Today the All Blacks face one of the toughest matches of their tour of England and Scotland when they play the South and South-West division at Redruth. David Hands assesses their prospects ..... Page 39

Football: Uefa, European football's governing body, is to introduce professional referees next year. There will eventually be a full-time pool of 40 to 50 referees to handle the three European club competitions ..... Page 40

Athletics: A revolutionary shoe fitted with electronic sensors may be the answer to the problems of race-walking, a discipline beset by technical disqualifications in recent years ..... Page 40

WEEKEND

Hallowe'en haunts: Alan Coren is anxious to meet the ghosts of architects and cricketers — anybody, in fact, except relatives ..... Page 1

Orange squash: Hattie Ellis gets her teeth into pumpkins ..... Page 5

Rake's progress: Cleaning autumnal lawns with Liz Gerard. Page 6

Novel approach: Which of today's first editions will represent an auction-house killing ..... Page 7

Taking the chair: Enter our competition to win a pair of chess chairs made by Andrew Varah and worth £3,000 ..... Page 9

Muscular Christianity: The Olympic hurdler Kriss Akabusi preaches the good word. Ruth Gledhill with *At Your Service* ..... Page 11

Writ in water: There is renewed interest in generating energy by water power. Nick Nuttall reports on recent projects both great and small ..... Page 18

ARTS

Tyro thespians: What are 22 witches from Worthing, two Harrovian angels, assorted Tartars from Rugby and Captain Cook doing on the same stage? Chosen from more than 200 entries from schools and youth groups, they are the finalists in the Barclays Music Theatre Awards ..... Weekend, 16

Theatre double-header: Harold Pinter's elegant struggle for domination, *Old Times*, receives a new production at the Birmingham Rep starring Carol Royle and Tim Pigott-Smith: while Fay Weldon's hard-hitting social satire on the uncaringness of the caring makes it to the stage ..... Weekend, 16

Record of the week: The disc of a live performance of Hans Werner Henze's Seventh Symphony, given in Birmingham's Symphony Hall last year by Simon Rattle and the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, is a welcome addition to the catalogue ..... Weekend, 16

VISION

James Carville and George Stephanopoulos were the terrible twins of the Clinton campaign. Carville was all charm and canniness; Stephanopoulos was the calm, brilliant Rhodes scholar. Ian Brodie on *The War Room* ..... Page 3

The thesis is that chemicals in the water we drink may be exerting a potent effect on the reproductive system. Nigel Hawkes considers *Assault on the Male* ..... Page 6

OPINION

Europe on the dole

The fact remains that Europe will not work so long as labour costs rise four times as fast as in America or Japan ..... Page 17

Repeat after me

RSI is prevalent enough and preventable enough for no purpose to be served by denying that it exists. Judge Prosser went well beyond his brief by painting all RSI sufferers as neurotics ..... Page 17

COLUMNS

SIMON JENKINS

Pinter and Stoppard (or Stoppard and Pinter) are a coupling that is coming to define our age ... Page 16

ALEXANDER CHANCELLOR

Taxi-drivers in New York live in fear of their lives, and not without justification: 35 drivers have been murdered so far this year, 45 last year ..... Page 16

LETTERS

Views on sex education for young children ..... Page 17

THE PAPERS

The larger issue is whether France is going to enter the 21st century with a flexible economy or with one in which mobs hold veto power

—The Wall Street Journal

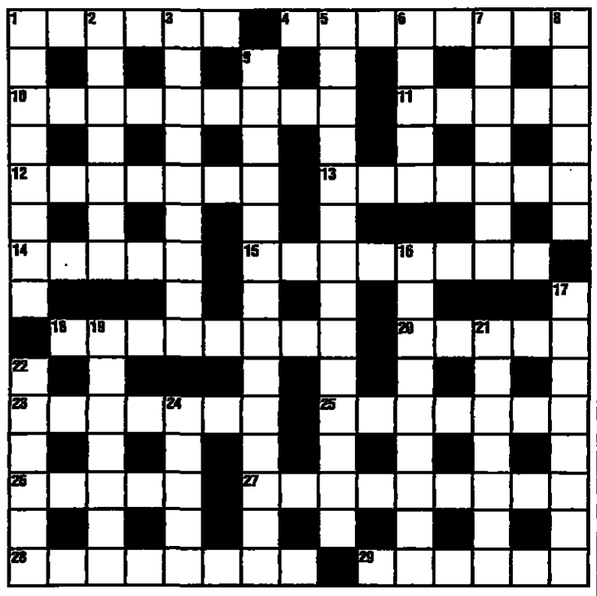
The nation is not served by an impatient foreign policy, nor by the frustration that is generated by complex, long-range, low-percentage challenges *— USA Today*

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,375

KNOCKANDO — *A bottle of Knockando, a superb Speyside Single Malt Scotch whisky uniquely bottled only when at its peak of perfection rather than at a pre-determined age, together with a beautifully crafted stationery rack, will be given for the first five correct solutions opened next Thursday. Entries should be addressed to: The Times, Saturday Crossword Competition, PO Box 486, Virginia Street, London E1 9DD. The winners and solution will be published next Saturday.*

Name/Address .....

.....



ACROSS

1 Fashionable babywear put on son (6).
4 Progressive is promoted (8).
10 Bloomer made by reflective youth (9).
11 Island to put down here (5).
12 Place for passenger that gets drunk in cocktail bar (7).
13 Garment not cared for by mademoiselle (7).
14 Avoid extremes on seventh occasion (5).
15 Too much supplication needing divine intervention (8).
18 Force to join crew in port (8).
20 Am I as confused as these people? (5).
23 Outline a number of Romans got when travelling (7).
25 Church bell cutting short deadly sins (7).
26 Medal, say, from conflict in 29 (5).
27 Vital cure could be profit-making (9).
28 Fabulous location for unsuccessful TV programme (8).
29 Draw attention to state daughter's in by end of test (6).

DOWN

1 Evil rites could be construed as this (8).
2 A game that may be contract (7).
3 University constructed in royal style (9).
5 Result of cutting off fashionable female's quarter inch in length (14).
6 Producing reverence often associated with a prayer (5).
7 Educational establishment that's right for a mineworker (7).
8 Poet it's not very interesting to study (6).
9 Poetry making dreadful hardship so real (1,10,3).
16 Made rough arrangement for defence volunteers (4,5).
17 Girl shut up, not properly employed (8).
19 A partnership in firm for political reporter (7).
21 Ordinary seaman overcoming anger (7).
22 Save from predicament (6).
24 Sort of paper there's a call for in Parliament (5).

Solution to Puzzle No 19,369

C	A	P	T	A	I	N		A	S	P	E	R	S	E
H		A		L		E	P		E		H		L	
E	N	N	U	I		O	T	H	E	R	W	I	S	E
K		O		B		L		I		F		N		V
H	A	R	D	I	H	O	O	D		O	B	E	S	E
O		A		G				R				N		
V	A	M	P	S		I	N	T	I	M	A	T	E	S
		I		L		S		U		E		A		
A	C	C	L	A	I	M	E	D		R	E	B	U	T
T		P		O				L		R				
H	I	T	C	H		G	E	R	M	A	N	E	L	Y
W		O		A		I		R		M		W		I
A	N	T	I	P	A	S	T	O		A	P	A	R	T
R		A		P		M		S		S		R		O

Solution to Puzzle No 19,374

C	O	R	K	S	C	R	E	W		T	H	E	R	M
A		O		M		E		I		A		T		A
P	A	Y	R	O	L	L		N	A	U	G	H	T	Y
R		A		O		A	D		G		I		B	
I	S	L	E	T		T	O	O	T	H	S	O	M	E
C		H		I		W		T		P				
C	A	L	F	L	O	V	E			L	I	A	R	
I		I		Y		E	D		B		A		A	
O	R	F	E			A	R	M	A	G	N	A	C	
		E		S		C		E		R		K		
D	I	G	I	T	A	L	I	S		B	U	G	L	E
U		U		E		A		S		E		A		T
C	H	A	T	E	A	U		I	N	C	L	U	D	E
A		R		L		S		N		U		N		E

TIMES WEATHERCALL

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Beds,Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk,Suffolk,Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops,Herefds & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness,Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

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C. London (within N & S Circs.)	731
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National traffic and roadworks

National motorways	737
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North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

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Winners of last Saturday's competition are: G W Granger, Brookside, Witton Gilbert, Durham; A Bell, Horsley Gardens, Sunderland; J C Jones, Cromwell Drive, Swanwick, Derbyshire; S Johnston, Millbank Avenue, Portstewart, Co Londonderry, Northern Ireland; A Evans, Wimmerfield Crescent, Killay, Swansea, West Glamorgan.

WEATHER

A generally dry day, with a good deal of cloud. The Northern Isles and the far north of Scotland may have some drizzle, although Shetland could turn drier later with clearer periods. Elsewhere bright or sunny intervals are likely; southern and western parts are likely to see the best of these, with eastern areas keeping a lot of cloud. Temperatures around normal, with a light breeze. Outlook: Little change; some fog overnight.

MIDDAY: t=thunder; d=drizzle; fg=fog; s=sun; sl=sleet; sn=snow; f=fair; c=cloud; r=rain.

	C	F			C	F	
Ajaccio	15	59	r	Madrid	11	52	f
Akrotiri	26	79	f	Majorca	20	68	s
Alex'dria	31	88	s	Malaga	18	64	s
Algiers	22	72	s	Malta	23	73	s
Amst'dm	8	46	s	Melb'rne	15	59	f
Athens	19	66	s	Mexico C*	20	68	s
Bahrain	33	91	s	Miami*	29	84	f
Bangkok	32	90	f	Milan	14	57	s
Barbados*	30	86	f	Montreal*	3	37	h
Barcelona	17	63	f	Moscow	-1	30	s
Beirut	25	77	s	Munich	3	37	c
Belgrade	12	54	s	Nairobi	27	81	f
Berlin	5	41	c	Naples	21	70	s
Bermuda*	28	79	f	N Delhi	29	84	s
Biarritz	17	63	f	N York*	14	57	s
Borde'x	14	57	c	Nice	16	59	s
Brussels	11	52	s	Oslo	3	37	s
Budapst	11	52	s	Paris	9	48	s
B Aires*	25	77	s	Peking	8	46	s
Cairo	34	93	s	Perth	20	68	s
Cape Tn	22	72	s	Prague	2	36	c
Chicago*	10	50	c	Reykjavik	6	43	f
Cologne	9	48	s	Rhodes	22	72	f
C'phagn	5	41	c	Rio de J	25	77	f
Corfu	21	70	s	Riyadh	33	91	s
Dublin	11	52	c	Rome	21	70	s
Dubrovnik	19	66	s	Salzburg	6	43	f
Faro	18	64	s	S F'risco*	19	66	f
Florence	18	64	s	Santiago*	19	66	f
Frankfurt	8	46	s	Seoul	10	50	r
Funchal	20	68	f	Sing'por	30	86	r
Geneva	7	45	c	St'kholm	5	41	s
Gibraltar	17	63	c	Strasb'rg	6	43	c
Helsinki	3	37	f	Sydney	18	64	s
Hong K	27	81	s	Tangier	21	70	s
Innsbruck	11	52	s	Tel Aviv	28	82	s
Istanbul	18	61	s	Tenerife	21	70	c
Jeddah	35	95	s	Tokyo	19	66	c
Jo'burg*	26	79	s	Toronto*	9	48	f
Karachi	25	77	s	Tunis	24	75	f
L Palmas	23	73	s	Valencia	18	64	s
Le Tquet	9	48	s	Vanc'ver*	12	54	f
Lisbon	18	61	s	Venice	14	57	s
Locarno	12	54	s	Vienna	5	41	fg
L Angels*	24	75	s	Warsaw	8	46	c
Luxembg	3	37	c	Wash'ton*	13	55	s
Luxor	34	93	s	Zurich	6	43	c

* denotes figures are latest available

LIGHTING-UP TIMES

London 5.07 pm to 6.21 am
Bristol 5.17 pm to 6.30 am
Edinburgh 5.07 pm to 6.45 am
Manchester 5.10 pm to 6.34 am
Penzance 5.32 pm to 6.39 am

TODAY

Sun rises: 6.51 am — Sun sets: 4.37 pm
Moon rises: 4.21 pm — Moon sets: 6.50 am

London 5.06 pm to 6.22 am
Bristol 5.15 pm to 6.32 am
Edinburgh 5.06 pm to 6.47 am
Manchester 5.08 pm to 6.36 am
Penzance 5.31 pm to 6.40 am

TOMORROW

Sun rises: 6.52 am — Sun sets: 4.36 pm
Moon rises: 4.52 pm — Moon sets: 7.55 am

Road Vehicles Lighting Regulations 1989: The hours of darkness are defined in these Regulations as the period between half an hour after sunset and half an hour before sunrise.

AROUND BRITAIN

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	0.4	0.01	10	50	cloudy
Anglesey	0.1	-	9	48	cloudy
Aviemore	-	-	8	46	cloudy
Belfast	-	-	9	48	cloudy
Birmingham	-	0.01	9	48	drizzle
Bognor Regis	2.9	-	11	52	bright
Bournemouth	-	-	11	52	cloudy
Bristol	-	0.03	11	52	drizzle
Buxton	-	-	8	46	dull
Cardiff	-	0.01	10	50	drizzle
Clacton	0.2	0.07	11	52	cloudy
Cromer	X	-	11	52	cloudy
Edinburgh	-	-	9	48	cloudy
Eskdalemuir	-	-	8	46	cloudy
Exmouth	-	-	10	50	dull
Falmouth	-	0.03	11	52	drizzle
Folkestone	3.4	0.01	11	52	sunny
Glasgow	-	-	10	50	cloudy
Guernsey	0.1	-	13	55	cloudy
Hastings	3.5	0.03	11	52	bright
Hunstanton	-	-	11	52	cloudy
Isle of Man	-	-	10	50	cloudy
Jersey	5.6	-	12	54	sunny
Kinloss	1.1	0.02	10	50	drizzle
Leeds	-	-	10	50	cloudy
Lerwick	0.5	-	8	46	cloudy
Littlehampton	2.9	-	11	52	bright
Liverpool	-	-	9	48	cloudy
London	1.2	-	12	54	cloudy
Lowestoft	-	0.05	11	52	cloudy
Manchester	-	-	10	50	cloudy
Morecambe	-	-	11	52	dull
Newcastle	-	-	10	50	cloudy
Nottingham	-	0.02	9	48	drizzle
Penzance	-	0.02	11	52	drizzle
Plymouth	0.1	-	11	52	cloudy
Sandown	0.1	-	11	52	cloudy
Saunton Snd	-	-	11	52	cloudy
Scilly Isles	-	-	11	52	cloudy
Southend	1.0	0.09	12	54	bright
Southsea	-	-	11	52	cloudy
Stornoway	-	-	9	48	cloudy
Swanage	-	-	11	52	cloudy
Teignmouth	-	-	11	52	dull
Tenby	-	-	11	52	cloudy
Tiree	-	-	9	48	cloudy
Torquay	-	-	11	52	cloudy
Weymouth	-	-	10	50	cloudy
Wick	1.8	0.01	10	50	drizzle

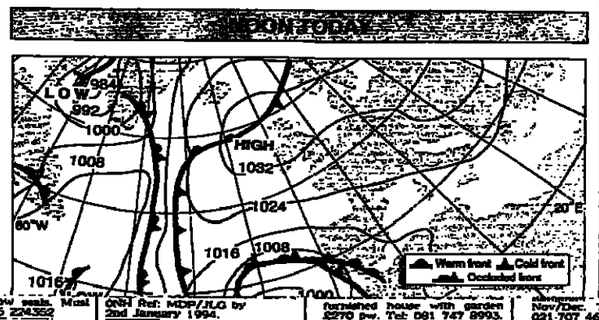
X denotes not available
These are Thursday's figures

Overseas Rates

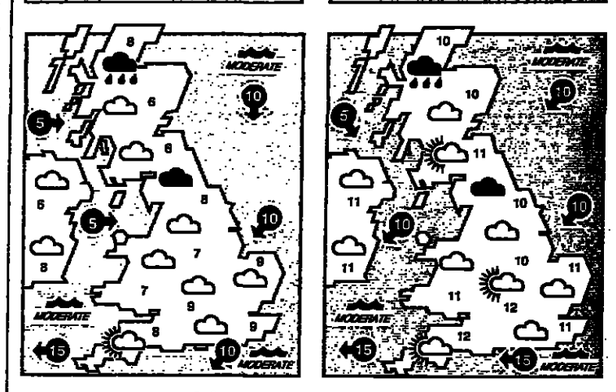
	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.3275	2.1275
Austria Sch	18.64	17.14
Belgium Fr	57.05	52.65
Canada $	2.085	1.925
Cyprus CypE	0.78	0.73
Denmark Kr	10.68	9.83
Finland Mkk	9.17	8.37
France Fr	9.19	8.49
Germany Dm	2.5575	2.4275
Greece Dr	370.50	345.50
Hong Kong $	12.16	11.16
Ireland Pt	1.1025	1.0225
Italy Lira	2519	2364
Japan Yen	179.00	159.50
Malta Mtz	0.605	0.550
Netherlands Gld	2.9575	2.7275
Norway Kr	11.44	10.64
Portugal Esc	257.50	249.00
South Africa Rd	5.90	5.00
Spain Pta	208.50	192.50
Sweden Kr	12.63	11.83
Switzerland Fr	2.33	2.15
Turkey Lira	20200	19200
USA $	1.5875	1.4575

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

NOON TODAY



AM



PM

Information supplied by Met Office

LADIES 1911. QUARTZ MOVEMENT. WATER RESISTANT TO 30 METRES. A BROAD RANGE OF OPTIONS AVAILABLE FROM STAINLESS STEEL TO 18 CT GOLD IN LADIES AND GENTS VERSIONS. 5 YEAR INTERNATIONAL LIMITED GUARANTEE.

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1911 WATCH SHOWN £6,245. EBEL RANGE FROM £530.

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Baptist. Clay Hill, Enfield. on Friday 29th October.

Aberaeron. on October 28th, aged 85.

4th November, West Chapel, Golders Green.

be made within one month from today.

one to front new seals. Meal sell, offers 0966 224352

OHM Ref: MDP/LLO by 2nd January 1994.

furnished house with garden £270 pw. Tel: 081 747 8993.

Nov/Dec. To drive it phone 021-707 4696.

Bank Govern

STOCK MARKET

Queens hotels v down b

PROFILE

هكذا من الأصل



PROFILE 23

Harmony reigns at J Rothschild Assurance



MELVYN MARCKUS 22

Our City Editor at large, today and every Saturday



SPORT 34-40

Simon Barnes on America's hottest star

WEEKEND SPORTING FIXTURES
Page 37

THE TIMES

SATURDAY OCTOBER 30 1993

Banks to pump in more cash to liberated Canary Wharf



Sir Peter: leading revival

BY CARL MORTISHED

CANARY Wharf's bankers are prepared to pump more money into the London Docklands development to ensure its success after yesterday's lifting of the administration order by the High Court. Iain Cheyne, of Lloyds Bank, a spokesman for the 11-bank Canary Wharf consortium, said that there was no upper limit to the funds that they might invest in Canary Wharf Ltd, the new company that will run the project on behalf of its bank shareholders.

The launch of Canary Wharf Ltd coincided with yesterday's confirmation by John MacGregor, the transport secretary, of the £1.5 billion public sector contribution to the Jubilee Line extension and the signature of a £150 million tunneling contract with Balfour Beatty and Amec and a £300 million order for rolling stock from GEC-Alsthom. Canary Wharf may need funds in addition to the £1.1 billion cost of the rescue in order to complete the fitting out and leasing of the development.

Rental income from existing tenants has been hit by the 18-month administration. It is believed that the rent roll has fallen to £8.25 million, due in part to disputes with tenants such as Ogilvy & Mather. Other occupiers whose original agreements with Olympia & York included the take-back of leases on their old premises, are said to be withholding rent.

Lloyds, Barclays and nine other banks have already lent £568 million to the project and will fund £300 million of the £400 million private sector contribution to the Jubilee Line. Mr Cheyne, who is chairman of Sylvester Investments, the banks' holding company owning Canary Wharf Ltd, said that the banks would look at opportunities to leave the project, but would be prepared to invest more money. "We will invest that which is necessary," he said.

Canary Wharf will need funds to finance inducements to tenants such as Mirror Group Newspapers (MGN), which is said to have received £5 million, as well as the £8.5 million value of the fitting out of offices. By paying big lump-sum inducements, Canary Wharf can charge higher rents and make the buildings easier to finance: MGN is believed to be paying nearly £30 a square foot. By contrast, London Transport is said to be paying £10 a square foot for shell space with about 2½ years rent free.

Sir Peter Levene, chairman and chief executive of Canary Wharf, said that transport had been the most critical problem facing the project. "The development has changed from being the most inaccessible place to one that is more accessible than anywhere else in London," he said.

Space was now 50 per cent let, Sir Peter said, and he expected that tenants for the remaining space would be international companies.

Canary Wharf's other directors, announced yesterday, are Patrick Garner, a former director of Trafalgar House, and Gerald Rothman, who has been administering the project for Olympia & York since 1988.

The development's value in Canary Wharf Ltd's balance sheet is likely to be far above the forced sale value of between £50 million and £100 million reported by administrators to unsecured creditors. The forced sale value would have reflected its current low income from tenants and excluded its potential fully let.

Tempus, page 23

Queens Moat hotels written down by £1bn

BY MELVYN MARCKUS, CITY EDITOR

QUEENS Moat Houses, Britain's third-largest hotel combine, suffered a pre-tax loss of £101.5 million for 1992. After exceptional items of £939 million are taken into account, that rises to a near-record-breaking loss for a UK corporation of more than £1 billion.

The scale of the losses reflects a dramatic reduction of £803.9 million in the value of Queens Moat's property portfolio, following a revaluation by Jones Lang Wootton of the company's 189 hotels. They are estimated to have been worth just £861 million at the end of 1992. Weatherall Green & Smith, Queens Moat's former surveyors, valued the company's properties at £2 billion a year earlier.

Stanley Metcalfe, the chairman, and Andrew Coppel, the chief executive, presenting the results yesterday, let it be known that certain matters — including alleged payment of unlawful dividends between 1991 and 1993, other breaches of the Companies Act and infringement of Stock Exchange regulations — had been "brought to the attention" of the trade department and the Stock Exchange.

In the wake of the 1992 audit, Queens Moat is shown to have a negative net worth, with 1991's restated net assets of £1,165.9 replaced by net liabilities of £388.9 million. Borrowings at the end of 1992 stood at £1,165.9 million.

News of the collapse of Queens Moat's asset base comes hard on the heels of Thursday's decision by the steering committee of the company's 65 bankers to continue the banks' support and to extend the "standstill" agreement on interest payments.

Mr Coppel told *The Times*: "We have agreed to put final proposals for a restructuring of the company to the steering committee by January 31, 1994. If our proposals are accepted, we will then put them to shareholders at an EGM." He confirmed that a "debt for equity swap" was "inevitable" — a course of action which is expected savagely to dilute shareholders' interests.

The extent of the writedown of Queens Moat's hotel portfolio represents a serious blow to investors, whose shares were suspended from dealing — when the price stood at 47.5p — last March. Early in the year, the shares traded at close on 60p. The portfolio revaluation is contentious, not least in view of Mr Coppel's optimism yesterday as to "the long-term recovery potential of the group's asset values". Jones Lang's estimate puts a value of just £39,000 on each hotel room.

Forte refused to comment on the breakdown of its hotel valuations. Although Forte's hotel portfolio is not strictly comparable with that of Queens Moat, the values put on its UK rooms are understood to average close on £115,000.

Mr Bairstow, who founded Queens Moat and resigned as chairman in August, said: "I am perplexed by the revelation that two firms of professional valuers have apparently differed by as much as £1 billion in valuing QMH's properties — even if the basis of valuation was different."

He added: "With so much at stake, the issue should go to arbitration under the auspices of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors." Mr Bairstow also pointed out that Queens Moat sold 17 hotels during 1991-2 on a willing buyer/willing seller basis "at or around the valuations of Weatherall Green & Smith". The sole exception was a bulk sale of hotels to one buyer in December 1992, transacted at a 14 per cent discount against the 1991 valuation.

A trade department spokesman commented: "We have not received a formal request from Queens Moat Houses to actually investigate." Payment of "unlawful dividends" is a civil matter, which means that any director found guilty of such contravention would run no risk of imprisonment.

Queens Moat's pre-tax loss of £1,040.5 million compares with a restated loss of £56.3 million for 1991 on turnover of £387.4 million (£314.7 million restated). There is no final dividend and the loss per ordinary share is 116.4p, compared with a restated loss of 8.5p.

Mid-year results for the first half of 1993 reveal an operating profit of £9.1 million. Net interest charges of £57.5 million resulted in a net pre-tax loss of £48.4 million.



Ian Maxwell, left, and his brother Kevin arrived at court with motorcycle helmets — and left by taxi still carrying them

Maxwell brothers seek to vary bail conditions

KEVIN and Ian Maxwell carried motorcycle crash helmets tucked under their arms when they arrived at the Old Bailey yesterday for a hearing to change their bail conditions.

The 30-minute hearing before Mr Justice Phillips was listed as an "application to vary bail conditions". The hearing was held in chambers, with journalists and the public excluded. The brothers — sons of the late Robert Maxwell — face conspiracy to defraud charges involving more than £300 million after a Serious Fraud Office investigation into the collapse of the Maxwell empire.

Their trial is not expected to begin until next year at the earliest.

The brothers were still carrying the helmets when they departed from the Old Bailey in a taxi.

Bank Governor underpins interest rates

George: lifted pound

BY JANET BUSH, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

EDDIE George, Governor of the Bank of England, sparked off a rally in sterling and a brief plunge in the gilts market yesterday when he said that interest rates are currently at an appropriate level.

Speaking to the Foreign Press Association, he said that the reason he had not endorsed a cut in interest rates since January's reduction was that he was "not confident it would be compatible with the objectives that have been set for me", referring to the government's 1 to 4 per cent inflation target range.

His apparent caution on interest rates was backed up by John Major, who was speaking at the European Community summit in Brussels.

The prime minister said that real interest rates were still too high in Europe and that there was scope for further cuts in many EC countries — but not Britain.

Mr George said that "monetary policy is appropriate for the conditions we face", but stressed that this judgment was true in the moment he was speaking.

Banking sources said that the position on interest rates may shift if the Chancellor of the Exchequer announces either tax increases or spending cuts in the Budget next month.

The pound finished at 80.8 on its trade weighted index, up from Thursday's close of 80.6. Long-dated gilt futures prices plunged in mid-afternoon before recovering a little to close around ¼ point lower.

Meanwhile, the EC confirmed that, as expected, Frankfurt had been chosen as the site for the European Monetary Institute, the precursor to the European central bank, and that Alexandre Lamfalussy, currently general manager of the Bank for International Settlements, had been appointed its president.

The appointment was subject to approval from the European Parliament.

STOCK MARKET

FT-SE 100 3171.0 +8.0

DOW JONES 3686.74 -1.12

Midday trading figure

THE POUND

Dm 2.4950 +0.0005

US $ 1.4882 +0.0097

GOLD

$368.75 per oz

BRENT CRUDE

$15.85 per barrel (Dec)

6.00pm

LONDON CLOSING PRICES

MARKETS IN DETAIL PAGE 24, SHARE PRICES PAGE 33

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BUSINESS EDITOR
Robert Ballantyne

WEEKEND MONEY

HIGH ENERGY

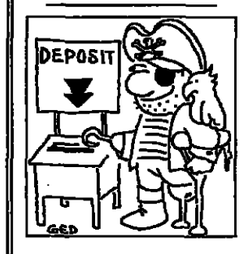


The threat of VAT on fuel will make the government's efforts to promote energy saving more popular with householders
Page 25

KEY MEASURES

Fire safety concerns are causing insurers to rethink the rules on locking the house when the family is at home
Page 27

BANK WARNS



After BCCI, the Bank of England warns depositors to check the credentials of the deposit-takers
Page 28

BUYING TIME

A time to buy and a time to sell: dealing in shares according to the phases of the moon
Page 29

Queens Moat's cast of thousands

That was the week that was for Queens Moat Houses' bankers, directors, ex-directors, advisers, ex-advisers and shareholders.

There are, of course, some ex-shareholders but they are very much yesterday's men, bearing in mind the fact that investors have been locked into the company ever since the quote was suspended at 47½p last March.

The writing, of a dangerously red hue, appeared on the wall last Monday, when recently appointed chairman Stanley Metcalfe, former chief of Ranks Hovis McDougall, informed shareholders that an extraordinary general meeting was called for in view of the not insignificant fact that Queens Moat's net assets had "fallen to less than half of its called up share capital of £251.5 million".

Such news was highlighted in *The Times* on Wednesday but received precious little coverage elsewhere, presumably because of the directors' quaint decision to inform shareholders but not the media.

Nor was the media given overmuch information as to the little tête-à-tête planned for Thursday between representatives of the company's 65 bankers — not only wolves hunt in packs — at the Cheapside HQ of Queens Moat Houses' solicitors Allen & Overy.

Security guards paraded outside, Metcalfe and Andrew Coppel, Queens Moat's recently appointed chief executive, paraded inside and, in the wake of a sandwich lunch, news came, from joint lead bank Barclays, that the outline plan, presented to the steering committee, demonstrated that Queens Moat Houses has a "viable future". There was, however, a rider to this. QMH had a viable future "despite the company's 1992 results and the mid-year results for 1993".

Such news was presumably well received by the Bank of England, which, ever since Queens Moat's liquidity problems erupted last spring, has been keeping a watchful eye on the affair. Coppel confirmed yesterday that the "appropriate authorities" had been "kept informed of progress" — a sensible precaution under the circumstances.

In the event, the banks, collectively owed more than £1 billion, have agreed to extend their "standstill" agreement in respect of interest due from Queens Moat Houses; the alternative being the appointment of an administrator or a receiver. The Bank of England's precise thoughts on the desirability of more UK hotels (and QMH controls 103 of them) coming under administration are not known but, judging from events, the Bank is unlikely to favour such a development.

And so the stage was set for yesterday's revelation that, in one fell swoop, the value of Queens Moat Houses' hotel portfolio — which also embraces 86



Melvyn Marckus

European properties — has been slashed by more than £800 million: the wielder of the axe being chartered surveyors Jones Lang Wooton.

The evaporation of Queens Moat Houses asset base is all the more astonishing in view of the fact that surveyors Weatherall Green & Smith placed a £2 billion valuation on the company's properties — as shown in the accounts to end-December 1991. A year later, Queens Moat Houses' portfolio is perceived to be worth just £861 million.

John Bairstow, who founded Queens Moat Houses and still holds some 8 million shares, appeared as astonished as anyone. In his words: "I am perplexed by the revelation that two firms of professional valuers have apparently differed by as much as £1 billion in valuing QMH's properties — even if the basis of valuation was different."

His suggestion is that the matter should "go to arbitration under the auspices of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors".

The matter is, arguably, all the more contentious in view of Mr Coppel's unashamed statement that the board is "optimistic about the long-term recovery potential of the group's asset values".

It would appear that in 1992 Queens Moat Houses actually suffered exceptional losses of £939 million — of which £803.9 million reflected the valuation writedown — which, added to a pre-tax loss of £101.5 million, took the total loss before tax to no less than £1,040.5 million — a UK record outstripped only by BAe. Take a bow, Professor Rowland Smith.

All of which means that not a few advisers are somewhat embarrassed, not least the aforementioned Weatherall Green & Smith.

Then again, Queens Moat's former auditors Bird Luckin presumably feel somewhat out in the cold and, to all intents and purposes are, having been replaced by Coopers who, with a few tricks of the accountancy trade, have turned Queens Moat Houses declared 1991 pre-tax profit of £90.4 million into a pre-tax loss of £56.3 million.

Not to forget, of course, that accountants Grant Thornton, originally called in to investigate affairs at Queens Moat, are still beavering away on the company's proposed capital reconstruction on behalf of the 65 banks who are doing their best to recoup their £1 billion deficit by way of an inevitable "debt for equity" swap which, equally inevitably, will savagely dilute shareholders' funds.

It was Grant Thornton which, way back in May, presented the Steering Committee with a 276 page report on the company's affairs - extracts from which appeared in The Times on Friday. Grant Thornton may be acting for the banks but Coppel confirmed yesterday that Queens Moat Houses can be expected to foot the bill. The banks, it may be recalled, have also called in SG Warburgs as advisers. Who, one wonders, will pay their fees. And, of course, Charterhouse were long ago replaced as Queens Moat's financial advisers by Morgan Grenfell. Interesting to note that provisions of as much as £32 million have been made "in connection with the envisaged financial restructuring."

IBM confesses sins

IBM, the world's largest computer company, admitted that its employees had become arrogant, insular and complacent (Philip Bassett writes).

Speaking at the annual conference in Harrogate of the Institute of Personnel Management, Roger Harrison, management and leadership development manager, said that many companies, including IBM, had been so secure that they had stopped asking their employees to earn promotion, pay rises and job security.

This public acknowledgement reflects shifts forced on the company by technological and marketing changes in the computer industry. IBM's profits have been hit hard and in Britain alone, the company has had to shed 5,000 employees since 1989.

BRADFORD & BINGLEY'S NEW RATES OF INTEREST EFFECTIVE FROM 1ST NOVEMBER 1993

Account	Amount Invested	Gross % p.a.	Net Equiv. % p.a.
Ordinary	£1+	0.50	0.38
Timesaver	£1+	0.50	0.38
	£250+	1.35	1.01
	£1,000+	2.35	1.76
Maximiser First Choice	£50+	1.75	1.31
(Including bonus)	£500+	4.35	3.26
	£3,000+	4.90	3.68
	£10,000+	5.35	4.01
Maximiser Special Asset	£5,000+	5.50	4.13
	£10,000+	6.50	4.88
	£20,000+	7.00	5.25
	£40,000+	7.25	5.44
(Income)	£5,000+	5.25	3.94
(Income)	£10,000+	6.35	4.76
(Income)	£20,000+	6.75	5.06
(Income)	£40,000+	7.00	5.25
Maximiser Classic II TESSA†		6.25	–
Maximiser High-Return II TESSA†		7.25	–
Maximiser High-Return II TESSA Feeder		7.25	5.44
Maximiser High Yield S.A.Y.E. Feeder		5.50	4.13
Maximiser S.A.Y.E. (5 Years)†		8.30	–
Maximiser S.A.Y.E. (7 Years)†		8.62	–
Premier Deposit	£100+	1.85	1.39
	£10,000+	5.20	3.90
	£25,000+	5.95	4.46

ACCOUNTS NO LONGER AVAILABLE TO NEW INVESTORS

Account	Amount Invested	Gross % p.a.	Net Equiv. % p.a.
Maximiser Income	£1,000+	3.55	2.66
	£5,000+	4.45	3.34
Maximiser Growth	£5,000+	4.55	3.41
Maximiser Top Rate	£25,000+	5.15	3.86
(Income)	£25,000+	4.95	3.71
Maximiser Bonus (Incl. full bonus)	£1,000+	4.30	3.23
	£10,000+	5.30	3.98
Maximiser Option 1	£2,500+	4.00	3.00
Option 1 (Income)	£2,500+	3.95	2.96
Maximiser Option 3	£2,500+	4.55	3.41
Option 3 (Income)	£2,500+	4.45	3.34
Maximiser Option 6	£2,500+	5.65	4.24
Option 6 (Income)	£2,500+	5.50	4.13
Maximiser Vintage Bond Issues 1 & 2	£5,000+	7.00	5.25
	£25,000+	7.50	5.63
(Income)	£5,000+	6.80	5.10
(Income)	£25,000+	7.25	5.44
Maximiser Vintage Bond Issue 3	£5,000+	7.00	5.25
	£25,000+	7.50	5.63
	£50,000+	7.75	5.81
	£100,000+	7.90	5.93
(Income)	£5,000+	6.80	5.10
(Income)	£25,000+	7.25	5.44
(Income)	£50,000+	7.45	5.59
(Income)	£100,000+	7.60	5.70
Premium Access (Issue II)	£1+	2.23	1.67
Extra Interest & Extra Income	£1+	2.22	1.67
High Income	£1,000+	3.95	2.96
High Interest	£1,000+	4.00	3.00
Flexible Savings (Inc. full bonus)	£1+	1.83	1.37
High Flyer Issue 1	£1,000+	3.30	2.48
	£10,000+	4.30	3.23
Super 90	£1,000+	4.55	3.41
	£25,000+	5.55	4.16
(Income)	£10,000+	4.65	3.49
Spa TESSA I†		6.70	–
Spa TESSA II†		6.20	–
Maximiser High-Return Feeder Issue 1		7.35	5.51

	Gross % p.a.		Bonus % p.a.		Tax Exempt % p.a.
Maximiser Optimum TESSA	5.50	+	1.00	=	6.50
Maximiser Classic TESSA I	5.50	+	1.00	=	6.50
Maximiser High-Return TESSA I	6.50	+	1.00	=	7.50

For details of other accounts please contact your local branch. Interest rates are variable and are correct at time of going to press. Net equivalents assume the current basic rate of income tax of 25%. Interest will be payable net of the basic rate of income tax (which may be reclaimed by non-taxpayers) or, subject to the required registration, gross. Net rates quoted are rounded and are for illustrative purposes only. †Tax-exempt.

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Cedric Brown is likely to tell the minister he will not support the MMC's plans unless they are adopted in full

Revenue enquiry at Johnson Fry on company loans

BY JON ASHWORTH

JOHNSON Fry, the financial adviser specialising in business expansion schemes, is at the centre of an Inland Revenue enquiry into possible tax avoidance involving inter-company loans.

The special investigations section, which carries out large corporate enquiries into suspected cases of tax avoidance, is studying the accounts of LIT Holdings, Johnson Fry's parent company. Details emerged as LIT announced a surge in BES revenue and said it is changing its name to Johnson Fry Holdings.

LIT's accounts show that the company received an enquiry from the special investigations section on August 31. It is not yet possible to judge the effect, if any, of the enquiry, which focuses on interest on loans between unspecified LIT companies. The section is only assigned to big cases.

Paul Gildersleeves, LIT company secretary, said: "There is some chance, I suppose, that it will come to something. It's not something that we take lightly."

Under the proposed restructuring, Christopher Castleman, chairman, will become chairman of the renamed Johnson Fry Holdings. Charles Fry, who co-founded the financial services company in 1969, will become chief executive. The changes are likely to be approved by Christmas.

Mr Castleman, who is director, financial services, at Standard Chartered, has presided over four difficult years at LIT.

LIT America was sold in July. Disposal losses pushed LIT Holdings to a pre-tax loss of £20.6 million in the six months to end-June (£2.25 million profit). The loss per share was 42.9p (1.8p earnings). Johnson Fry raised £281.5 million in BES funds in the first half (£98 million). Operating profits, excluding LIT America, rose to £7.7 million (£2.4 million). The company had £145 million under management at June 30 (£102 million), and property under management of £665 million (£280 million).

British Gas pressure on Heseltine

BY NEIL BENNETT

BRITISH Gas wants an early meeting with Michael Heseltine, President of the Board of Trade, now that the consultation period on the monopolies commission's report into the gas industry is at an end (Neil Bennett writes).

The company is expected to warn the minister that unless the commission's proposals for breaking up British Gas and phasing in unrestricted market competition are adopted in full, it may withdraw its support from them.

Cedric Brown, British Gas's chief executive, is believed to want to meet Mr Heseltine in the next two weeks to discuss the results of the consultation period, which ends at midnight tomorrow.

☐ *British Gas has been selected* as technical operator for the distribution section of a gas project linking Chile with Argentina across the Andes.

Tempus, page 23

Rank agrees £60m hotel sale

BY MARTIN WALLER, DEPUTY CITY EDITOR

RANK Organisation, the leisure combine, has clinched the sale of its Royal Lancaster Hotel in central London for £60.75 million. The buyer is Landmark, a Thai hotel group. Announcement of the sale sweetened a trading statement from Rank that suggested that any economic upturn was, at best, patchy.

Michael Gifford, chief executive, said: "Continental European and Japanese markets have yet to show any signs of improvement. Economic recovery in the UK and USA remains uneven and weak." Analysts who attended Rank's half-yearly meeting were inclined to give the company the benefit of the doubt, and the shares rose 9p to 841p. "There seems to be a gentle recovery going on in the holidays area," Nigel Reed of Paribas said. "There are a number of areas where there are positive numbers coming through."

Mr Gifford said that, to end-September, trading results were ahead of last year in spite of a reduction from hotels as Rank leaves the hotel market.

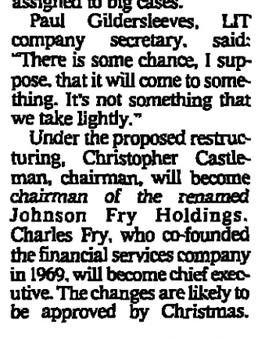
Tempus, page 23

Spring Ram bid talks fail

BY CARL MORTISHED

BID talks between Spring Ram, the kitchens and bathrooms group, and Masco Corporation have ceased, by mutual agreement. The company's shares, which have suffered from boardroom turmoil and the departure of chief executive Bill Rooney, profit warnings and shareholder rebellions, slipped from 60p to 55½p.

Roger Regan, chairman, said Masco had not been prepared to offer a price in line with his expectations for the business. "I have been talking to shareholders, and none of them are prepared to accept a price that does not reflect the company's earnings potential over the next five years," he said. Mr Regan said there was nothing wrong with Spring Ram's markets. "The big issues are management issues." A consortium of institutional shareholders invited Mr Regan to take over the chair of Spring Ram in July.



Regan: talks off

Spring Ram's share price has fallen to less than a third of its 184p peak, and last month the company revealed losses of £36 million due to large provisions against stocks and costs associated with start-up difficulties.

Mr Regan said he had received an approach from Masco soon after joining. "The first few days I was here I was inundated with bargain hunters, but Masco was the only one I paid attention to." He said that Masco had been a long-term business partner of Spring Ram and a customer for its products and he expected talks to continue on areas of commercial co-operation.

Tempus, page 23

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

BAe secures £100m Navy missile order

BRITISH Aerospace has won a £100 million contract to supply vertical-launch Seawolf anti-aircraft missiles to the Royal Navy. The contract will safeguard jobs at BAe's dynamics manufacturing centre at Lostock, Lancashire, and at Filton, near Bristol. Bob Bartlett, dynamics' project director, said: "It will help provide long-term stability for our manufacturing workload from 1995 onwards."

The contract is the third large order placed by the defence ministry in the past fortnight. BAe secured a £200 million order for ammunition and on Wednesday, a £140 million contract for a new bridging system was awarded to Rolls-Royce. The vertical-launch Seawolf entered service in 1991 and forms the main air defence of the Navy's new Type 23 frigates. The missiles are in sealed cannisters from manufacture to the moment of firing and require no on-board maintenance. The rush of orders comes against a background of Cabinet battles over Treasury efforts to pare £1 billion from the defence budget.

Whyte woos former foes

WHYTE & Mackay, which has won control of Invergordon Distillers in a bitterly fought takeover battle, says that it wants Chris Greig and two other executive directors who led the defence, to stay with the company. Michael Lunn, chairman and chief executive of Whyte & Mackay, the UK drinks offshoot of American Brands, said that he had high regard for Mr Greig, Invergordon's managing director, Edward Pickard, finance director, and Geoffrey Whittaker, marketing director. "I sincerely hope they will stay," said Mr Lunn. "We are in very co-operative discussions." Negotiations were likely to take a couple of months, he suggested. It is understood that the trio are on rolling three-year contracts.

Markheath seeks time

MARKHEATH, a property company talking to its banks about a financial restructuring, said it was asking the trade department to postpone the deadline by which it must submit its latest trading results until the end of the year. Michael Rendle, chairman, said the delay in submitting audited accounts was due to the talks with the banks. This month, Markheath, which is owned by The Adelaide Steamship Company, an Australian conglomerate, announced increased unaudited taxable losses of £68.8 million (£22.7 million) in the year to March 31. George Haines, a non-executive director, has resigned through ill health. His place is taken by Robert Wright, Adelaide's executive director.

Crest valued at £54m

SHARES in the flotation of Crest Packaging, the packaging and cartons group, were priced at 135p, valuing the company at £54 million. The company, a management buyout from Bowater in 1985, is coming to market via a placing, sponsored and underwritten by SG Warburg Securities. Four directors and their families, who hold 100 per cent of the equity, will share £14.1 million as a result of the placing and retain 73.5 per cent of the equity. Lilliput, which makes miniature cottages, released its pathfinder prospectus. It is seeking a listing next month with a placing and intermediaries offer valuing the group at about £20 million. About £17 million will go to existing shareholders and £3 million to the company.

THE TIMES SUCCESSFUL SELLING 93 OFFER

Keys to prosperity

The most important event this year in the world of sales takes place in Birmingham at the beginning of next month: the "Successful Selling 93" conference and exhibition, on Thursday, November 4 and Friday, November 5.

During two, inspiring days at the International Convention Centre, there will be interest-packed workshops and video-backed seminars on techniques.

Speakers include: John Davis (Mercury Communications), Warren Greshes ("Speaking of Success" NY), Phil Forrest (Aegis Marketing), Martin Williams (Oriflame UK), Chip Eichelberger (Robins International, US), Bunny Freeman (Senior Trainer, ISMM).

The seminar chairmen will be Ken Clark (J. Rothschild Assurance), Paul Joslyn (Sunlife Broker Services), Graham Roberts Phelps (Roberts Phelps Training) and Derek Forbes (Forbes Management).

In addition, The Times, in association with the Institute of Sales and Marketing Management (ISMM) is backing the British Sales and Marketing Awards of 1993. On Thursday, four prestigious awards will be presented:

The Royal Mail International European Award for direct marketing.

The Cellnet Award for the most effective use of mobile communications by a sales force.

The Laurentian Financial Group Award for professional selling.

● ***The Times* Award** for the Salesperson of the Year.



GED

The normal one-day rate for the conference and exhibition (including lunch) is £150 plus VAT (£176.25); the two-day rate £220 plus VAT (£258.50). *The Times* is pleased to offer readers:

● £30 OFF the two-day rate; £15 off the one-day rate.

● FREE membership joining fee of the Institute of Sales and Marketing Management, usually £25.

● FREE invitation to a regional ISMM training workshop, not usually open to non-members.

■ **TO APPLY for tickets, or free joining membership of the Institute of Sales and Marketing Management, call *Cathy Clarke at the ISMM* on 0582 411130, quoting *The Times*, or fax 0582 453640 for further information**

هكذا من الأصل

J Rothschild Assurance: **Mike Wilson and Sir Mark Weinberg**

Twenty-five years, and never a cross word

partners in power

The suave man of ideas and the "people person" prosper from reversal of their expected roles, **Martin Waller** finds

IT takes a funny sort of person to want to be a salesman. Aside from needing drive, stamina and self-motivation, you have to be able to bounce back from repeated rejection. The shy, sensitive introvert plagued by a sense of inadequacy need not apply.

How curious, therefore, to meet Mike Wilson, one of the main movers behind J Rothschild Assurance, an ambitious new player in the life assurance game that is above all about salesmanship.

At JRA he has teamed up again with the man who can reasonably claim to have invented many of the rules by which the game is now played. Sir Mark Weinberg, the chairman, is the man behind the growth of two of the biggest success stories in life assurance so far, Abbey Life and Allied Dunbar. This month, indeed, the two men celebrate their quarter century in business together. The paradox is that they reverse the expected roles in such partnerships. Weinberg, 62, has always been the ideas man, uninterested in technical detail. Wilson, 49, has been the self-confessed "people person", dealing with the minutiae of corporate life and the all-important motivation of the sales force.

> "In management Mike is a more structured and organised person ... it just isn't my style to tick off lists," Sir Mark says

He should be the confident, outgoing one, and Weinberg the tortured soul dreaming up new concepts away from human contact. Yet, while the urbane Weinberg presents a smooth front, Wilson, the chief executive, talks openly of his horror of entering a crowded room or addressing hundreds of people, and about his childhood and the lack of parental approval that drove him to make a success out of a world he drifted into.

He does not come over as paralysingly shy, although his foot does twitch. Yet he admits he "almost dies" if he walks into a drinks party and does not see a familiar face, and used to regard the annual conference at which he had to address all 2,500 Allied Dunbar staff at Wembley as an ordeal, an event where Weinberg was in his element.

"I love a workshop with people arguing with me rather than just listening — I always think an audience might not be there at the end," says Wilson. "You can't even see the audience at Wembley. I had this fear that the lights would come up at the end and the room would be empty."

Deeply affected by the break-up of his parents' marriage, he made a hash of his A levels and found himself unloading bread from a van at three in the morning. An insurance clerk at Equity & Law at least worked decent hours, he reasoned.

"People do not leave school or university and say, life assurance is for me," he says. "Instead, many people who drift in as a last resort become enormously successful as salesmen. As soon as I went to a company in an insurance-selling role I knew that selling appealed to me." He is convinced that a brash sales technique is a disadvantage, especially in a business such as life assurance that is all about trust, where the customer has to buy an intangible product that may not show its true worth for decades. "Ex-accountants, for example, can make good salesmen, because clients like and trust them."

Wilson left Equity & Law because the company set its salaries according to age alone, and he simply could not afford to live in London. Abbey Life paid according to the business brought in. Characteristically, his lack of self-confidence almost lost him the job.

An interview with Tim Walker, an insurance industry luminary then at Abbey, persuaded him he could never be good enough, and he turned it down. "He was so polished, compared with anybody I knew at Equity Law. I must have come across very badly — I'd never met anyone that senior before."

Walker persisted, phoning again and persuading Wilson to join. In 1971, when Weinberg was ready to strike out with his second vehicle, Hambro Life, subsequently to be re-named Allied Dunbar, Wilson joined him. In 1976 he took charge of the 1,500-strong direct sales force in a typically Weinbergian lateral move — Sir Mark, a man of diverse passions who once owned a Welsh gold mine and also lost a packet backing a computerised personal organiser no one could subsequently use, is a fan of Edward de Bono. Wilson thought the job beyond him, naturally, but it did mark the start of a close relationship.

Weinberg accepts that eight years of university has given him the more trained mind of the two, but adds: "In management Mike is a much more structured and organised person. Mike will say methodically, I have a list of points here, and will handle things in a much more structured way — it isn't my style to tick off lists."

At this point Wilson obligingly pulls open his briefcase; it is, indeed, full of neat lists. Weinberg continues: "With my businesses, I have always been lucky enough to have one or two people around me with that sort of methodical style, doing all the technical management stuff the books tell you you have to do. Not only do I not do it well, I don't do it at all."

JRA is a four-man team. Aside from Wilson and Weinberg, Keith Carby, another refugee from Allied Dunbar, is managing director and Paul Bradshaw is in charge of J Rothschild International Assurance, which markets the products in Europe and the Far East.

Weinberg is also chairman of St James's Place Capital, Lord (Jacob) Rothschild's investment vehicle and an initial backer, with a 40 per cent stake, of JRA.

The long-standing link with Rothschild lay behind his acrimonious departure in 1989 from BAT Industries, which had bought Allied Dunbar. Rothschild was one of the triumvirate who launched the ultimately unsuccessful £13 billion bid for BAT that year. Weinberg had, therefore, a foot in both camps. Asked to abandon either the company that had enriched him or his friends, he ostensibly quit both, although it was the link with the latter that endured, a fact that still rankles at BAT. Wilson quit a year later, supposedly after a row over a proposed venture with Barclays Bank he favoured, and slotted into JRA, neatly avoiding a non-competition agreement he had with BAT.

The suspicion must be that what motivates Weinberg, aside from a third fortune, is a desire for vengeance on BAT and Allied Dunbar, with which JRA directly competes. "There would certainly be an element of saying, it would be nice to show that one could still do something very successful," he concedes. "At the age of 60 I found myself creeping out through the back door. I didn't even get a letter of thank-you from BAT. It was an inglorious end to 30 years in life assurance.

"Increasingly towards the end, when some bitterness boiled up at BAT, remarks were made that found their way back to me saying, 'he's past it, he's only a figurehead'. They found a target. But it certainly wasn't festering in me in any way."

It must be said that BAT, for its part, still sees both departures as engineered by pretexts such as the Barclays row and motivated by a wish by both men to get even richer. There is little love left at BAT's Victoria Street headquarters for Weinberg in particular, not helped by allegations that JRA has been poaching Allied Dunbar staff.

Whatever the state of play with former employers, the two men deny ever having had a row with each other. But they perhaps came closest when Wilson announced plans to contract out the administration and investment functions at JRA, traditionally done in-house. He was influenced by Charles Handy's *The Age of Unreason*, a sort of corporate small-is-beautiful treatise. Weinberg was less impressed. "But I said there is never going to be any conflict between us. This is your show."

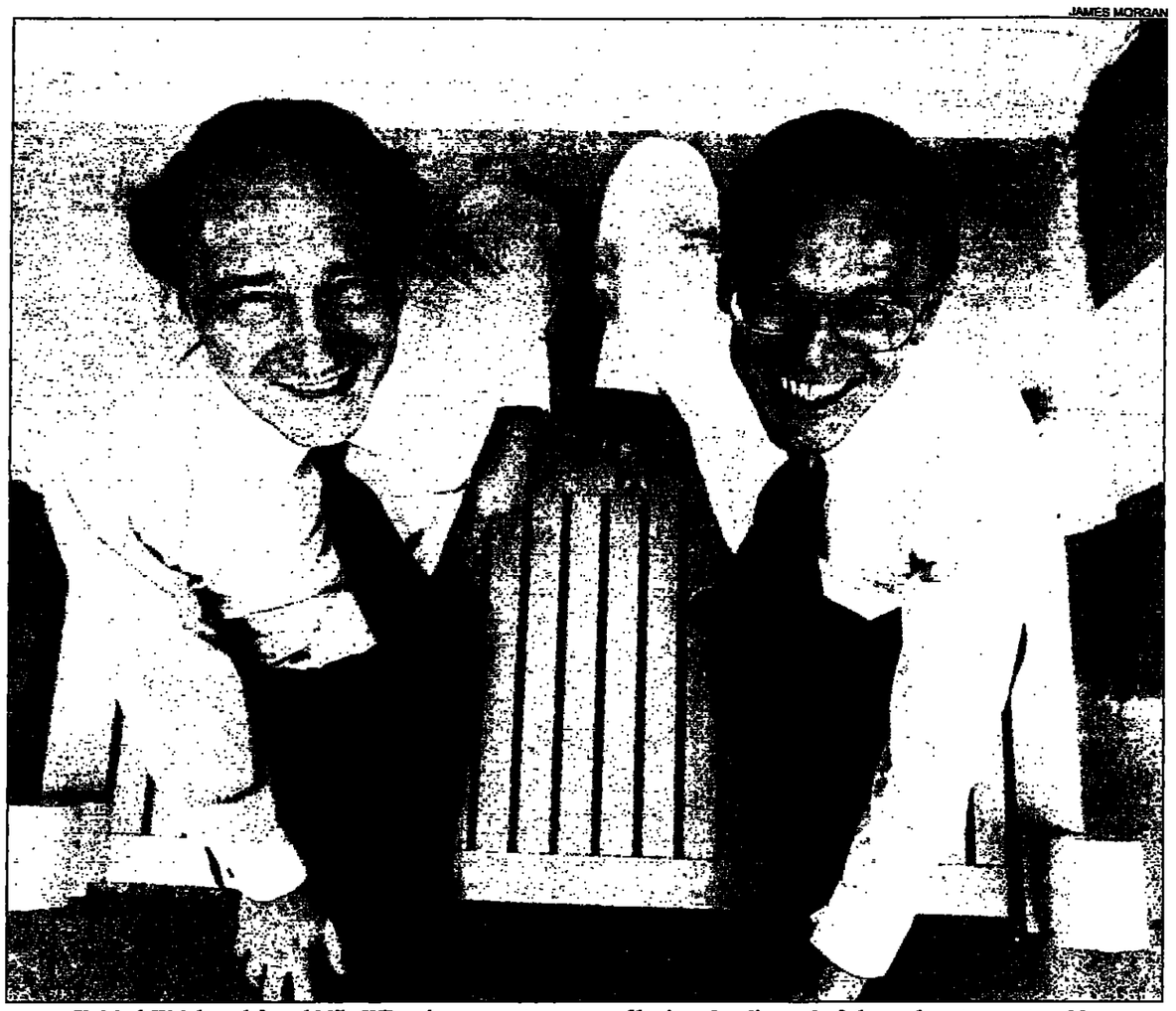
Wilson adds: "If I had a son going into business and I could pay for him to be articled with Mark Weinberg, I would pay a great deal."

It is a telling remark. Wilson still feels he failed his father, who withheld his support when he most needed it. Weinberg recognised his talent and took him under his wing as his protege, and their relationship perhaps has elements of the father and son.

"Mark will never say you are doing a good job face to face, only to 2,500 people at Wembley," says Wilson.

Weinberg counters: "I didn't think it was necessary. I just thought Mike would know."

JAMES MORGAN



Sir Mark Weinberg, left, and Mike Wilson have a quarter century of business bonding and a father and son type partnership

TEMPUS

Ignoring demerger calls will cause Sid to suffer

SHAREHOLDERS in British Gas have every reason to feel nervous as Michael Heseltine ponders the future of the gas supply industry this weekend. The rising clamour over the imposition of VAT on fuel bills has tilted the debate about the gas industry back in favour of the consumer. If the government decides to pick and choose from the recommendations of August's MMC enquiry in the cause of political expediency instead of adopting the package as a whole, the original Sids who bought British Gas shares in the 1986 privatisation will feel the pain.

The threat of government machinations is real, since there are 18 million voters who use gas but only 2 million who own British Gas shares. The nightmare scenario for British Gas and its shareholders is that the government will grandly ignore the MMC's call for a demerger of the company's trading business, but back the removal of the domestic monopoly by 2002, or even earlier. This could leave British Gas in a squeeze from a restrictive RPI-minus-4 price formula and saddled with all its social responsibilities to supply gas to remote areas, while aggressive independents can cherry pick its most profitable business.

Curiously, this forces British Gas to be an advocate of its own demerger, since the MMC insisted that any demerger should be paid for by the consumer. It added that the supply business needed to be financially viably, thereby forcing Ofgas to loosen its pricing formula. In any case, ICI has shown that demergers tend to be rather good for shareholders.

British Gas shares, at 345p, are up 26 per cent from their year's low and have outperformed the market in the past month. Shareholders may not feel they need much protection. But the chart (below) shows just how tighter regulations have cut into their interests since privatisation. While the unit cost price of gas has become 23 per cent cheaper since 1987 in constant prices, operating profits from group gas supply have fallen 29 per cent.

These two lines will diverge even more sharply if the government removes the monopoly without any compensating measures. Unless the government resists the pressure from the hue and cry over VAT and comes up with a balanced package for the industry, the chances of British Gas being able to continue to offer real dividend growth (something we have come to expect from our utilities) look unappealing.

Rank

INVESTORS' interest in Rank Organisation in recent weeks has mostly been focused on whether the group is indeed an office equipment manufacturer, as ruled by the asinine FT-SE classification committee. The group's third trading report before the purdah season, by now a useful ritual that might reasonably be followed elsewhere, provides an opportunity to refocus on the group. Rank is, as ever, about two things; the reduction of heavy debts and the arrival of the economic upturn to which the group is heavily geared.

Debt is a question of two steps forward, one step back. A figure not far shy of £1 billion last October has been cut by £100 million, but currency movements have then expanded the headline figure by another £80 million. The sale of Royal Lancaster Hotel trims this figure by a welcome £60 million. Economic recovery is still halting. The shares sell on about 18.5 times' 1992/3 earnings, about the market average. Although Rank remains a good play on an eventual upturn, the numbers do not suggest much immediate upside.

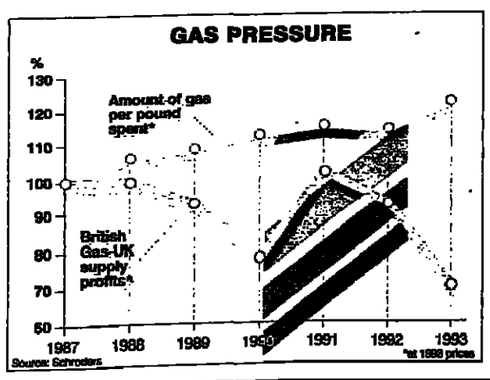
Spring Ram

INVESTORS should be grateful that Spring Ram's bid talks with Masco are over: yesterday's 5p dip in the shares suggests that the market never believed a sensible offer was on the cards. Spring Ram's public boardroom rows enticed bidders like vultures and a takeover for the company now would serve no one except the buyer. The key question is what is the business worth? At its peak, Spring Ram was apparently earning profits of as much as £30 million but subsequent accounting problems and the new management's recent adjustments and writedowns to the accounts cast doubt on the record. Yet it is clear that Spring Ram has the guts of a profitable business in selling kitchens and its new chairman is respected by customers. That alone justifies a bid price well above 60p. The chief problem facing the company is turning the bathrooms operation into profit and getting a payoff from its investment in Regency Doors. The latter may be problematic. Spring Ram should be well placed when the housing market picks up but management has enough to do without relaunching a business as well. None the less, the group should be more attractive in a year's time.

Canary Wharf

After 18 months of wrangling, Canary Wharf's bankers-turned-shareholders deserve a break but their job is not over yet. The property market has picked up and there are fewer rival developments in central London that offer the same size and quality of space but tenants still demand inducements and many potential occupiers are locked into expensive leases.

To justify giving more money to the project, Sylvester Investments, the holding company, needs to forecast a profitable exit, even if the date is years away. The likely scenario is probably tax-driven sales of buildings to investors or even the public using the Enterprise Zone allowances as an incentive. But the jam, if there is any, will not come from the existing development. The next three phases are Sylvester's real hope of catching Tweetie Pie.





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FRAMLINGTON

Flextech remains in red

Flextech, the cable and satellite television operator currently in talks to buy the European programming business of Telecommunications Inc, the US media and telecoms giant, remained in the red at the half-year stage.

In the six months to end-June Flextech's pre-tax losses deepened to £3.2 million (£2.91 million). There is again no dividend.

Fact in talks

Shares in EW Fact, the USM-quoted accountancy training group, were suspended at 104p after the company said it was in talks over a possible £11 million acquisition. The company reported pre-tax profits up 49.4 per cent to £602,000 in the six months to end-June. The dividend is 1.76p (1.6p).

Shares on hold

Shares in Embassy Property Group were suspended at 3p yesterday as the group said it was considering proposals for a substantial acquisition and possible restructuring. The Solihull group is to defer the audit of its latest results while some properties are revalued.

Trust launch

Finsbury Underwriting Investment Trust, backed by Rea Brothers and UBS, has formally launched a placing and intermediaries offer to raise £30 million to invest at Lloyd's. The offer closes on November 10. Dealings begin on November 15.

THE SUNDAY TIMES

Toughest boss

"Management by a loose grip of the throat . . . An almost inhuman lack of sentimentality . . . The ability to sacrifice his friends . . ."

That's Britain's toughest boss — who is he? Find out in The Sunday Times tomorrow

Ofwat worry hits water shares

WATER companies spent a nervous day as brokers turned cautious before publication next week of the pricing formula being implemented by Ofwat, the industry regulator.

It seemed yesterday as if brokers had turned bearish of water shares, if only for the time being, in anticipation of bad news. NatWest Securities even went so far as to urge clients to switch into the electricity distributors. The broker warned that the differential between the two sectors will continue to grow as the market becomes increasingly aware of the added risks contained within the Ofwat agenda.

Losses were recorded in **Anglian**, 11p to 521p, **Northumbrian**, 4p to 673p, **North West**, 10p to 530p, **Southern**, 13p to 574p, **South West**, 7p to 580p, **Thames**, 4p to 544p, **Welsh**, 7p to 658p, **Wessex**, 9p to 637p, and **Yorkshire**, 8p to 553p.

The rest of the equity market ended the two-week trading account on a scrappy note.

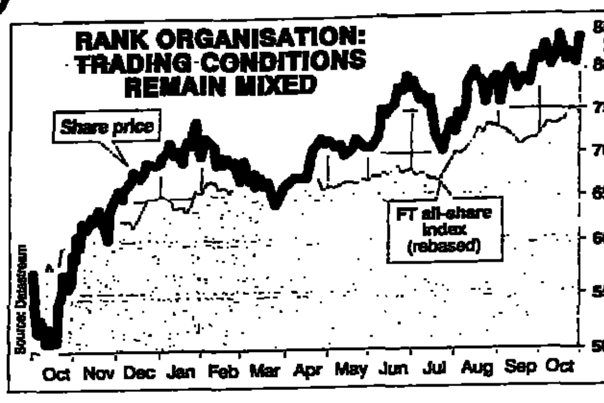
STOCK MARKET

Without a fresh lead from Wall Street the FT-SE 100 index fluctuated in narrow limits for much of the day. It closed 8 points up at 3,171.0, to bring a rise on the record breaking account of 50.2. A total of 800 million shares were traded.

There was another sell-off in **Wellcome** on the back of Thursday's disappointing trading news, which saw the price touch 679p before closing off the bottom 22p down at 690p.

Not everyone was impressed with third quarter figures from **ICI**, published the same day, and the shares were off 2p at 716p. Hoare Govett, the broker, warned that *only a modest improvement in trading conditions is likely for some time* and urged clients to sell.

Rank Organisation climbed 9p to 841p after meeting brokers. Trading remained patchy, but the group was in a positive mood.



TI Group lost an early lead to finish unchanged at 347p after a meeting with brokers the previous evening. **Cable & Wireless** ended 8p dearer at 501p after going ex-scrip, while **Vodafone** hardened 8p to 553p, *helped by a recommendation from Smith New Court.*

Tiphook, the troubled trailer and container rental group, touched 100p before rallying to finish only 3p down at 110p.

The company has reassured shareholders that it will meet interest payments on two tranches of unsecured debt in the US, due on Monday.

Dale Electric, the power systems specialist, tumbled 17p to 80p after warning of first half losses of about £700,000 compared with a profit of £540,000. The group expects to return to the black by the year-end.

Lep Group was steady at 9¾p after reducing pre-tax losses in the first half from £14.72 million to £5.05 million.

Shares of **EW Fact**, the accountancy training specialist, were suspended at 104p pending shareholder approval for a proposed re-organisation. Half-year pre-tax profits were almost £200,000 ahead at £602,000 and the group is in talks about the acquisition of a private accountancy teaching firm.

Spring Ram, *the troubled kitchen and bathroom products group*, fell 4½p to 55½p after breaking off bid talks with Masco Corporation, the US group.

☐ **GILT EDGED** lost an early lead following a sell-off in the US bond market. The December series of the long gilt closed five ticks lower at £114³/₃₂ as 59,000 contracts were completed. In the cash market, the benchmark Treasury 9 per cent 2012 issue eased three ticks to £118⅛, while at the shorter end, Treasury 9½ per cent 1999 was £⅛ lower at £113⁹/₃₂.

MICHAEL CLARK

WALL STREET

New York — Wall Street capped a turbulent week's trading with quiet action as investors squared their positions and moved to the sidelines, brokers said. At midday, the Dow Jones industrial average was down 1.12 points at 3,686.74.

☐ **Tokyo** — Shares ended higher, but slightly off the day's highs on bargain hunting. The Nikkei average ended up 223.52 points at 19,702.97.

☐ **Hong Kong** — The market ended a hectic day's trading at record levels with the Hang Seng index up 318.82 points, at 9,329.09.

☐ **Sydney** — Shares reached their highest level in six years on strong overseas interest with the all-ordinaries index up 35.9 at 2,112.2. *(Reuter)*

	Oct 29 midday	Oct 28 close
AMP Inc	62	62
AMR Corp	70	70
Abbott Labs	27	28
Aetna Life	64	62
Ahmanson (HF)	18	18
Air Prod & Chem	42	42
Alberto Cl	26	25
Alcan Aluminum	29	29
Alco Standard	45	45
Allied Signal	72	71
Alum Co of Am	68	67
Amax	22	22
Amerada Hess	52	52
Amer Brands	34	34
Amer Cyanamid	54	54
Amer El Power	36	36
Amer Express	32	31
Amer Genl Corp	29	29
Amer Home Pr	62	62
Amer Intl	89	90
Amer Stores	40	42
Amer T & T	57	57
Ameritech	84	85
Amoco	56	56
Anheuser-Busch	47	47
Apple Computer	31	31
Archer Daniels	25	25
Arkla	9	9
Armco	9	9
Armstrong Wrld	46	45
Asarco	19	19
Ashland Oil	34	34
Atl Richfield	111	111
Auto Data Pro	53	53
Avery Dennison	28	27
Avon Products	49	50
Baker Hughes	22	22
Baltim Gas & El	25	25
Banc One	38	38
BankAmerica	41	42
Bank of NY	53	53
Bankers Tr NY	76	75
Barnett Banks	41	41
Bausch & Lomb	51	51
Baxter Intl	24	24
Becton Dcknsn	37	36
Bell Atlantic	57	57
BellSouth	62	62
Black & Decker	19	19
Block (H&R)	40	40
Boeing	37	37
Boise Cascade	21	21
Borden Inc	16	16
Bristol Myrs Sq	56	57
Browning Ferris	22	22
Burlington Nthn	56	56
CBS	309	309
CNA Financial	82	82
CPC Intl	49	49
CSX	81	80
Campbell Soup	41	42
Can Pacific	15	16
Cptl Cities ABC	612	615
Cptl Holdings	41	41
Carolina Pwr	31	31
Caterpillar	90	91
Central & SW	32	32
Champion Intl	30	30
Chase Manhat	33	33
Chemical Bk	40	40
Chevron Corp	96	97
Chrysler	56	57
Chubb Corp	82	81
Cigna Corp	65	64
Citicorp	36	36
Clorox	53	52
Coastal Corp	27	27
Coca Cola	43	43
Colgate-Palmolive	58	59
Columbia Gas	26	26
Commonw Ed	30	30
Compaq Comp	66	66
Comp Ass Int	38	38
Conagra	25	25
Cons Edison	34	34
Cons Nat Gas	45	48
Cons Rail	61	60
Cooper Inds	52	51
Corning Inc	25	26
Crown Cork	38	37
Dana Corp	58	55
Dayton Hudson	69	68
Deere	76	77
Delta Air Lines	58	58
Deluxe Corp	35	35
Detroit Edison	33	33
Digital Equip	36	35
Dillard Dept St	37	37
Disney (Walt)	42	42
Dominion Res	48	48
Donnelley (RR)	29	29
Dover Corp	57	56
Dow Chemical	55	55
Dow Jones	35	35
Dresser	21	21
Duke Power	43	43
Dun & Brdstreet	67	66
Du Pont	47	47
Eastman Kodak	63	63
Eaton Corp	53	53

	Oct 29 midday	Oct 28 close
Emerson Elec	57	57
Engelhard Corp	27	28
Enron Corp	33	34
Ensearch Corp	38	38
Ethyl Corp	17	17
Exxon	65	66
FMC Corp	49	49
FPL Group	39	39
Federal Express	66	66
Fed Nat Mtge	79	78
First Chicago	44	44
First Interstate	59	58
First Union Rlty	11	11
Fleet Finl Grp	31	31
Fluor Corp	40	40
Ford Motor	62	63
GTE Corp	39	39
Gannett	51	51
Gap Inc Del	35	34
Gen Dynamics	94	93
Gen Electric	97	96
Gen Mills	63	63
Gen Motors	48	49
Gen Reinsurance	116	115
Gen Signal	34	35
Genuine Parts	37	37
Georgia Pac	66	66
Gillette	61	60
Glaxo ADR	20	20
Goodrich (BF)	44	44
Goodyear Tire	44	44
Grace (W&R)	37	37
Gt Atl Pac Tea	26	26
Great Wstn Fin	19	18
Halliburton	32	33
Harcourt General	44	44
Heinz (HJ)	37	37
Hercules	99	100
Hershey Foods	54	54
Hewlett Packard	74	74
Hilton Hotels	46	46
Home Depot	39	39
Homestake Mng	19	19
Honeywell	34	34
Household Intl	36	36
Houston Inds	48	48
Humana	14	13
ITT Corp	92	93
Illinois Tool	37	38
INCO	21	21
Ingersoll Rand	36	36
Inland Steel	33	33
Intel Corp	64	63
IBM	46	45
Intl Flav & Fr	107	106
Intl Paper	61	61
James River Va	20	20
Jhnsn & Jhnsn	41	41
K Mart	24	24
Kellogg	57	56
Kerr-McGee	51	51
Kimberly-Clark	51	51
Knight-Ridder	55	55
Lilly (Eli)	53	54
Limited Inc	21	21
LIN Brdcstng	112	111
Lincoln Nat	45	46
Litton	67	67
Liz Claiborne	19	19
Lockheed Corp	68	69
Louisiana Pac	37	36
MCI Commun	28	28
Marriott Intl	26	26
Marsh & McLnn	81	81
Masco Corp	32	n/a
May Dept St	44	44
Maytag Corp	15	15
McCaw Cellular	52	53
McDonalds	57	57
McDonnell D	93	92
McGraw Hill	74	72
Mead Corp	42	42
Medtronic	72	72
Mellon Bk	53	53
Melville Corp	42	41
Merck Inc	32	32
Merrill Lynch	96	95
Minnesota Mine	103	104
Mobil Corp	81	81
Monsanto	69	69
Morgan (JP)	71	71
Motorola Inc	105	104
Natl Medical	11	11
Natl Semi	16	16
Natl Service Ind	24	24
Navistar Int	27	27
NBD Bancorp	31	31
NY Times A	23	23
Newmont Mng	52	52
Niag Mohawk	22	22
Nike B	48	47
NL Industries	4	5
Nordstrom	35	34
Norfolk Sthrn	67	67
Nthn State Pwr	44	44
Norwest Corp	26	26
Nynex Corp	42	42
Occidental Pet	18	18
Ohio Edison	23	23
Oracle Systems	57	58

	Oct 29 midday	Oct 28 close
Oryx Energy Co	24	23
Owens Corning	46	45
PNC Financial	28	28
PPG Industries	70	70
Paccar Inc	67	66
Pacificorp	19	19
Pac Enterprises	26	26
Pac Gas & Elect	36	36
Pac Telesis	54	55
Pall Corp	20	20
Panhandle East	23	23
Paramnt Comm	80	80
Parker Hannifin	34	34
Penney (JC)	51	52
Pennzoil	57	57
Pepsico	40	40
Pfizer	61	61
Phelps Dodge	43	42
Philadel Elec	31	31
Philip Morris	53	52
Phillips Pet	32	31
Pitney Bowes	40	40
Polaroid	36	36
Price Co	40	40
Primerica	43	43
Procter & Gmbl	54	54
Pub Serv E & G	33	33
Quaker Oats	71	71
Ralston Purina	37	37
Raychem Corp	38	38
Raytheon	61	61
Reebok Intl	30	30
Reynolds Metals	43	43
Roadway Srvcs	60	60
Rockwell Intl	35	35
Rohm & Haas	50	50
Royal Dutch	105	105
Rubbermaid	35	36
Safeco Corp	57	57
St Paul's Cos	93	93
Salomon Inc	45	44
Santa Fe Pac	18	18
Sara Lee Corp	27	27
Scecorp	20	21
Schering Plough	66	66
Schlumberger	62	62
Scott Paper	38	38
Seagram	28	28
Sears Roebuck	58	59
Shell Trans	63	62
Sherwin Wllms	36	36
Skyline Corp	17	17
Snap-On-Tools	39	39
Southern Co	45	45
Sthwestern Bell	43	43
Sprint Corp	35	35
Stanley Works	43	43
Sun Company	31	31
Suntrust	44	44
Supervalu	34	34
Syntex Corp	18	18
Sysco Corp	28	28
TRW Inc	67	67
Tandem Comp	11	11
Tandy Corp	41	41
Telecom Corp	3	3
Teledyne	26	26
Temple Inland	43	42
Tenneco	51	51
Texaco	67	67
Texas Inst	65	65
Texas Utilities	44	44
Textron	56	56
Time Warner	45	45
Times-Mirror	33	33
Timken	32	32
Torchmark	46	46
Toys R Us	40	39
Transamerica	57	58
Travelers Corp	35	35
Tribune	55	55
Tyco Labs	46	46
UAL Corp	150	153
UST Inc	26	25
USX Marathon	18	19
Unilever NV	114	114
Union Camp	43	43
Union Carbide	19	19
Union Pacific	62	62
Unisys Corp	11	11
USAIR Group	14	14
USF&G Corp	13	13
US Life	42	43
US West	49	49
United Tech	62	60
Unocal Corp	29	29
Upjohn	32	31
VF Corp	40	40
WMX Tech	24	25
Wal-Mart Stores	26	26
Warner-Lambert	68	68
Wells Fargo	111	111
Westinghouse El	14	14
Weyerhaeuser	40	41
Whirlpool	64	64
Whitman	16	15
Winn Dixie	57	57
Woolworth	22	23
Wrigley (Wm) Jr	43	44
Xerox	78	78

MARKET AT A GLANCE

THE POUND
US $ .... 1.4882 (+0.0097)
German mark .... 2.4950 (+0.0005)
Exchange index .... 80.8 (+0.2)
Bank of England official close (4pm)

STOCK MARKET
FT-SE 100 .... 3171.0 (+8.0)
Dow Jones .... 3686.74 (-1.12)*
Nikkei Avg .... 19702.97 (+223.52)

INTEREST RATES
London Bank Base 6%
3-month Interbank .... 5¹³⁄₁₆-5¹¹⁄₁₆%
US Federal Funds 3%*
3-month Treas Bills 3.04-3.02%*
Long Bond 5.96%*

CURRENCIES

New York:		London:	
£:$	1.4874*	£:$	1.4868
$:DM	1.6765*	£:DM	2.4910
$:SWfr	1.4827*	£:SWfr	2.2017
$:Ffr	5.8700*	£:Ffr	8.7240
$:Yen	108.33*	£:Yen	161.07
£:SDR	1.0645	£:ECU	1.3035

London Forex market close

GOLD
London Fixing ($):
AM 369.10 .... PM 369.60
Close 368.30-368.80
New York
Comex 370.15-370.65*

OIL
Brent Crude .... $15.85 per bbl (Dec)

RETAIL PRICES
RPI 141.9 Sept (1.8%) Jan 1987=100
* Denotes midday trading price

Azlan joins the dash to listing

By Philip Pangalos

AZLAN Group, Britain's leading value-added distributor of network computing products, is the latest company out to gain from buoyant conditions and float on the stock market.

Azlan, formed in 1991 after a £6.5 million management buy-out from Logitek, has issued a pathfinder prospectus for a placing and intermediaries offer, sponsored by SG Warburg Securities, likely to value it at more than £40 million.

The sale is expected to raise between £20 million and £25 million, with £7 million of this likely to be new money, although the net new money could be nearer £3.5 million. It will fund expansion. The 20 directors, who hold about 45 per cent of the equity, will retain about 25 per cent of the enlarged equity.

Azlan's pre-tax profit was £1.9 million in the six months to end-September, on sales 69 per cent up at £28.5 million.

A final prospectus is expected on November 12, with dealing from November 24.

Lep plans floats to cut debt

By Susan Gilchrist

LEP Group, the struggling freight forwarding and security group, plans to seek a separate listing for its two core businesses to reduce its debt mountain.

David James, the company doctor brought in as chairman and chief executive last year, issued what he described as "a severe health warning" to shareholders yesterday. With no prospect of dividend payments in the forseeable future, he said the only way for shareholders to realise the value of their investment in the company was through the sale or flotation of the freight forwarding and security activities.

Lep continues to struggle under the burden of servicing debt on past losses and discontinued businesses. Of the group's £340 million of debt, only £100 million is attributable to existing operations. Interest payments for the six months to June 30 fell from £23.7 million to £17.5 million, but were still enough to produce a pre-tax loss of £5 million (£14.7 million loss).

Turnover from continuing operations rose from £694.5 million to £703 million and operating profit edged up to £14.3 million (£13.4 million).

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:	
HSBC	762p (+15p)
SG Warburg	924p (+11p)
Hutch Whamp	253p (+10p)
Courtaulds	509p (+13p)
Carrs Milling	132p (+10p)
Jardine Strat	286p (+17p)
MAM	718p (+10p)
THORN EMI	951p (+13p)
Takeda Chem	817p (+10p)
Euro Disney	573p (+15p)
BAT	499p (+10p)
Powell Duffryn	621p (+11p)
FALLS:	
Wellcome	690p (-22p)
Hammerson	410p (-13p)
Assoc Br Ports	503p (-9½p)

Closing Prices Page 33

RECENT ISSUES

BSM (170)	174	...
BZW Endowment Fd (100)	55	...
Cantab Phrmctcls (460)	455	...
CentreGold (125)	163	-4
Flem Chinese Inv Tst (100)	93½	-½
Flem Chinese Warrants	55	-1
Gartmore Shared Eqty Tst	108	+1
Gartmore Shared Zero Pf	102½	...
HTR Japanese Smlr (100)	92	+2
HTR Japanese Warrants	45	+1
Hamler (130)	139	...
London Fin & Inv Wrrts	14½	...
Parkdean Leisure (120)	134	+1
Regent A	5¼	...
Rothmans Intl Units	419	-3
Scotia (290)	305	...
Select Industries	9	-½
Smaller Cos Inv Tst C (135)	141	...
VHE Holdings (115)	116	+1
Vendome Luxury Units	316	...
Virtuality Group (170)	252	-9
Wiggins Group	5½	...
RIGHTS ISSUES		
Birkdale n/p (8)	1	...
Blick n/p (370)	65	...
Costain n/p (30)	¼	-½
Fenner n/p (80)	29	+3
Flagstone n/p (1)	½	...
Frost n/p (187)	35	...
JIB Group n/p (150)	23	...
MB-Caradon n/p (260)	77	...
Matthew Clark n/p (375)	135	...
Mersey Docks & Hrb n/p (330)	67	...
Safeland n/p (28)	8	-2
Takare n/p (195)	22	...
Wentworth n/p (2½)	¼	...
Wescol n/p (15)	3	...
Yule Catto n/p (215)	35	+1

UNIT-LINKED INSURANCE INVESTMENTS

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
AEGON LIFE ASSURANCE Aegon House, Lanark Square, London E14 9XS 071 538 8800				
Series Mngd Fd	435.10	460.50	+0.30	...
Series Equity	550.00	582.10	-2.00	...
Series Prop Fd	418.00	442.40	+6.00	...
Series Fixed Int	329.10	348.30	-1.50	...
Series Money Fd	242.70	256.90	+0.20	...
Series Oseas Fd	345.60	365.80	+2.80	...
AETNA LIFE INSURANCE 2-12 Pentonville Road, London N1 9XD 0800 010575				
Life Funds				
Squirrel	17.42	18.34	...	...
Bear	19.52	20.55	+0.04	...
Owl	19.70	20.74	+0.08	...
Bull	17.82	18.76	+0.09	...
Stag	18.84	19.84	+0.10	...
Gilt Edged	19.03	19.03	-0.01	...
Deposit	15.34	15.34	+0.01	...
Pensions				
Squirrel	23.28	24.51	+0.01	...
Bear	26.28	27.67	+0.08	...
Owl	26.50	27.90	+0.14	...
Bull	22.74	23.94	+0.15	...
Stag	23.38	24.62	+0.15	...
Gilt Edged	23.44	23.44	-0.02	...
Deposit	19.51	19.51	+0.01	...
Pre 1982 Series				
3-Way Fund	575.74	575.75	+2.59	...
1982 Series				
UK Equity	341.89	359.89	+2.07	...
N Amer Equity	292.83	308.25	+2.71	...
Far East Equity	411.76	433.44	+2.09	...
Fixed	298.19	313.89	-0.19	...
Cash Deposit	197.63	208.04	+0.09	...
Property	142.82	150.34	+0.04	...
Special Opp	361.07	380.08	-0.78	...
Managed	303.76	319.75	-1.47	...
Index-Linked Fd	195.16	205.44	+0.10	...
ABBEY LIFE Holdenhurst Road, Bournemouth BH8 8AL 0202 292373				
Property Fd Inc	254.30	267.70	-7.50	...
-do- Acc	464.60	489.10	-5.20	...
Equity Fd Inc	170.10	179.10	-0.50	...
-do- Acc	220.80	232.50	-0.70	...
Selective Fd	475.80	500.90	-0.40	...
Money Fd	363.20	382.40	+0.40	...
Prop Fd Ser 4	361.90	381.00	+4.10	...
Equity Ser 4	212.00	223.20	-0.60	...
Man Ser 4	656.50	691.10	+0.10	...
Conv Ser 4	317.80	334.60	+0.30	...
Money Ser 4	317.50	334.30	+0.30	...
Fixed Int Ser 4	346.70	365.00	-1.90	...
American Ser 4	502.80	529.30	+2.40	...
High Inc Ser 4	655.00	689.50	+0.10	...
Indexed Inv Ser 4	213.80	225.10	-1.00	...
Japan Ser 4	365.70	385.00	-4.90	...
ALBANY LIFE 3 Darkes Lane, Potters Bar EN6 1AJ 0707 42311				
Equity Fd Acc	1520.0	1599.9	-3.20	...
European Fd Acc	349.60	368.00	+1.50	...
Fixed Int Acc	532.60	560.60	-4.60	...
Gtd Money Acc	322.70	339.60	+0.20	...
Intl Managed Acc	582.90	613.60	-0.20	...
Int Fxd Int Acc	327.10	344.30	-2.30	...
Japan Fund	292.70	308.00	-3.80	...
N American Acc	319.20	335.90	+0.50	...
Prop Fd Acc	388.30	408.70	+0.50	...
Multiple Inv Acc	1020.5	1074.2	-0.30	...
ALLIED DUNBAR ASSURANCE Swindon SN1 1EL 0793 514514				
Fxd Int Dep Acc	359.20	378.20	+0.20	...
Equity Acc	1375.5	1447.9	-15.30	...
Property Acc	491.50	517.40	+1.00	...
Far East Acc	314.50	331.10	+7.30	...
Managed Capital	533.70	561.80	-4.00	...
-do- Acc	1059.3	1115.1	-9.90	...
Overseas Acc	914.90	963.10	-3.70	...
Gilt Edged Acc	476.70	501.80	-0.40	...
Amer Equity Acc	744.80	784.00	-0.60	...
Amer Man Acc	319.30	336.20	+1.00	...
Amer Prop Acc	116.50	122.70	-1.50	...
AXA EQUITY & LAW LIFE ASSURANCE Amersham Road, High Wycombe, Bucks 0494 463463				
Reserve Ser 5	143.80	151.30	-0.30	...
Balced Ser 5	679.10	714.80	-1.40	...
Opportunity Ser 5	156.00	164.20	+0.60	...
Distribution Ser 5	104.20	109.60	-0.20	...
UK Equities Ser 5	932.10	981.10	-4.40	...
Higher Inc Ser 5	1007.8	1060.8	-0.10	...
North Amer Ser 5	444.40	467.70	+8.70	...
Far East Ser 5	564.10	593.70	+8.30	...
Europe Ser 5	351.50	369.90	-2.30	...
Intnl Ser 5	551.30	580.30	+0.80	...
Property Ser 5	472.70	497.50	+10.00	...
Fixed Int Ser 5	415.40	437.20	-2.20	...
Ind-Lnkd Sec S5	184.10	193.70	-0.80	...
Gteed Dep Ser 5	286.40	301.40	...	...
BARCLAYS LIFE 252 Romford Road, London E7 9JB 081 534 5544				
Equity Acc	811.40	854.20	-2.20	...
-do- Initial	556.70	586.10	-3.30	...
Gilt Edged Acc	390.90	411.50	-2.40	...
-do- Initial	270.60	284.90	-2.50	...
International Acc	390.60	411.20	+0.50	...
-do- Initial	268.60	282.80	-0.50	...
Managed Acc	505.00	531.60	-1.00	...
-do- Initial	348.40	366.80	-1.70	...
Money Acc	281.10	295.90	+0.20	...
Property Acc	255.60	269.10	-0.30	...
-do- Initial	175.10	184.40	+0.10	...
America Acc	280.30	295.10	-0.80	...
Australia Acc	208.40	219.40	+3.50	...
Financial Acc	321.40	338.40	-0.30	...
500 Accum	425.50	447.90	+1.10	...
Japan Genl Acc	360.70	379.70	-7.40	...
Income Acc	506.80	533.50	-0.50	...
Leisure Acc	208.30	219.30	+1.00	...
Special Sits Acc	223.20	235.00	+0.70	...
Univ Tech Acc	149.10	157.00	-0.70	...
BLACK HORSE LIFE Mountbatten House, Chatham, Kent ME4 4JF 0634 834000				
The Managed Fd	781.32	781.32	-0.61	...
Income Fund	746.44	785.73	-0.71	...
Extra Income	681.88	717.77	-0.60	...
Worldwide Gth	492.77	518.71	+4.62	...
Balanced Fund	642.85	676.69	+1.06	...
Smllr Cos Recov	641.81	675.59	+4.14	...
N Amer & Genrl	380.39	400.42	+4.47	...
Pacific Basin	446.74	470.26	+20.10	...
German Growth	230.87	243.03	-0.17	...
Japan Growth	178.39	187.78	-3.30	...
The UK Gth Fd	201.76	212.38	-0.31	...
Contl Euro Gth	122.96	129.44	-0.33	...
Property Fund	358.67	377.55	+0.28	...
Fixed Interest	314.42	330.97	-3.00	...
Cash Fund	273.82	288.34	+0.18	...
Managed Inv	475.09	500.10	+0.14	...
Nth Amer Recov	254.54	267.94	+5.08	...
Abtrust Fund				
Managed Grth	473.19	498.10	+3.19	...
BRITANNIA LIFE ASSURANCE PO Box 31, Greenock, Renfrewshire 0475 888000				
Measured Perf	158.60	167.80	+0.20	...
Performance Plus	157.30	166.40	+0.80	...
With Profit Perf	164.50	174.00	+0.10	...
UK Opportunity	173.00	183.00	-0.50	...
Euro Opportunity	206.10	218.00	-0.70	...
North Amer Opp	157.50	166.60	+0.60	...
Far East Opp	187.20	198.00	+2.90	...
Gwth Prop Ser 1	146.10	153.80	...	...
Gth Prop Ser 2	160.70	170.00	-0.30	...
Fixed Int	189.30	200.30	-1.90	...
Cash	151.20	160.00	-0.20	...
Overseas	181.40	191.90	+0.90	...
CANADA LIFE 2-6 High Street, Potters Bar, Herts EN6 5BA 0707 51122				
Equity Growth	£238.60	...	...	...
Managed	317.80	334.60	-0.90	...
Property	209.60	220.70	+0.60	...
Gilt & Fxd Int	243.90	256.80	-1.80	...
Equity	350.20	368.70	-0.10	...
Cash	211.00	222.20	+0.20	...
CLife Euro Mgd	350.30	368.80	-0.60	...
CLife Intl Fd	358.10	377.00	-3.20	...
CANNON ASSURANCE 1 Olympic Way, Wembley, Middx HA9 0NB 081 902 8876				
Equity Units	£134.24	...	-0.96	...
Property Units	£26.25	...	...	...
Bal Bd Exec Unit	£66.21	£69.69	-0.15	...
2nd Equity Acc	626.00	659.00	-4.40	...
2nd High Inc Ac	607.00	638.90	-2.10	...
2nd Property Acc	240.20	252.90	...	...
2nd Mngd 2 Acc	185.20	194.90	-0.80	...
2nd Mngd 3 Acc	470.20	495.00	-0.90	...
2nd Mngd 4 Acc	229.70	241.80	-0.20	...
2nd Deposit Acc	271.80	286.10	-2.60	...
2nd Gilt Acc	310.10	326.40	-2.40	...
2nd Amer Acc	687.80	724.00	+0.30	...
2nd Intl Mny Acc	258.30	271.90	-0.80	...
2nd Index Acc	206.60	217.50	-2.20	...
2nd Fr East Acc	451.40	475.20	+5.90	...
2nd Global Acc	179.10	188.60	+0.60	...
2nd Euro Acc	158.10	166.40	-1.10	...
2nd Japan Acc	209.30	220.30	-3.90	...
2nd Heritage Acc	71.70	75.40	...	...
2nd Int Cr Bd Acc	164.60	173.20	-1.00	...
2nd Cap Gth Acc	124.50	131.00	-0.80	...
CITY OF WESTMINSTER ASSURANCE Sentry House, 500 Avebury Blvd, Milton Keynes MK9 2NU. 0908 606101				
Property Fund	178.60	188.00	+1.40	...
Managed Fund	595.00	626.40	-3.80	...
Equity Fund	339.50	357.40	-2.30	...
CLERICAL MEDICAL/FIDELITY INVESTMENTS Narrow Plain, Bristol BS2 0JH. 0272 290566				
Assurance Funds				
Sapphire Mixed	280.50	295.30	+0.70	...
Ruby	162.00	170.60	+0.20	...
Emerald	144.40	152.10	-0.60	...
Equity	318.70	335.50	+0.60	...
Property	193.80	204.10	-1.50	...
Gilt & Fixed Int	211.10	222.30	-0.20	...
Indexed Secs	170.40	179.40	-1.00	...
Cash	180.70	190.30	+0.20	...
Nth American	211.80	223.00	-1.00	...
Far East	312.80	329.30	+11.80	...
International	228.00	240.00	...	...
Special Sits	307.20	323.40	+0.70	...
Intl Income	287.20	302.40	-0.70	...
American Inc	188.50	198.50	+1.20	...
European	295.70	311.30	+0.10	...
Japanese	144.40	152.10	-3.70	...
SE Asia	348.20	366.60	+17.00	...
With Profits Reg	152.10	160.20	+0.20	...
-do- Spec	152.10	160.20	+0.20	...
Flexible Retirement Plans Funds				
Mixed	309.40	325.70	-2.00	...
Equity	361.60	380.70	-3.90	...
Property	179.10	188.60	+0.50	...
Gilt & Fixed Int	258.40	272.00	-1.40	...
Index Linked	180.50	190.10	-1.10	...
Cash	238.10	250.70	+0.30	...
Nth American	266.70	280.80	-1.70	...
Far East Acc	320.60	337.50	-3.60	...
International Acc	292.20	307.60	-0.60	...
Special Sits	450.00	473.70	-4.00	...
European Flex	410.30	431.90	-2.90	...
COLONIAL MUTUAL GROUP Colonial Mutual House, Chatham Maritime, Kent ME4 4YY. 0634 890 000				
(Unitised) Key	£221.90	...	...	...
-do- Pacemaker	£308.01	...	...	...
-do- Cash	197.84	208.25	+0.12	...
-do- Equity	528.01	555.80	+6.65	...
-do- Fxd Int	373.29	392.94	-0.68	...
-do- Managed	381.88	401.98	+3.54	...
-do- Property	340.31	358.22	+4.36	...
(Pens): Cash Cap	206.59	217.47	+0.05	...
-do- Cash Inv	290.97	306.30	+0.29	...
-do- Equity Cap	1413.8	1488.2	+0.08	...
-do- Equity Inv	1991.3	2096.1	+1.53	...
-do- Fixed Cap	406.72	428.13	-1.05	...
-do- Fixed Inv	572.85	603.01	-1.06	...
-do- Index Cap	213.43	224.68	-1.31	...
-do- Index Inv	300.61	316.45	-1.62	...
Mngd Cap	567.03	596.88	-0.28	...
Mngd Inv	798.64	840.68	-0.17	...
COMMERCIAL UNION St Helen's, 1 Undershaft, EC3. 071 283 7500				
Var Ann Acc (5)	£682.45	...	+16.44	...
Var Ann (5)	£91.37	...	+1.65	...
Prime: Managed	395.20	416.00	-2.20	...
Prime: UK Equity	470.40	495.20	-4.80	...
Prime: Int Equity	308.20	324.50	+1.10	...
Prime: Property	202.30	213.00	+0.50	...
Prime Fxd Int	247.80	260.90	-1.80	...
Prime Index-Lnk	178.20	187.60	-1.50	...
Prime: Cash	198.40	208.90	+0.20	...
CONFEDERATION LIFE Lytton Way, Stevenage, Herts SG1 2NN 0438 744840				
Managed Fund	1098.3	1156.1	+4.70	...
Equity Fund	1572.9	1655.6	-2.50	...
CROWN FINANCIAL Crown House, Woking GU21 1XW 0483 715033				
Life Mangd Acc	581.40	612.00	-1.60	...
Life Fxd Int Acc	370.70	390.20	-1.80	...
Life Equity Acc	796.20	838.10	-4.20	...
Life Money Acc	292.90	308.30	+0.20	...
Life Inv Tst Acc	787.40	828.80	+3.10	...
Life Intl Acc	505.20	531.70	...	...
Life High Inc Acc	778.70	819.60	-4.80	...
Life Property Acc	231.50	243.60	+6.10	...
Crown Brit Inv A	1138.3	...	...	...
Brewin Equity	699.10	735.80	+4.90	...
Life Equity Acc	234.00	246.30	...	...
EAGLE STAR LIFE ASSURANCE Bath Road, Cheltenham, Gloucester GL53 7LQ. 0242 221311				
Secure Fund	169.20	178.20	+0.10	...
Blue Chip Fund	238.00	250.60	-0.50	...
-do- Series 2	153.50	161.60	-0.20	...
Adventurous Fd	209.60	220.70	+2.60	...
-do- Series 2	158.10	166.50	-2.00	...
Performance Fd	247.70	260.80	+0.50	...
-do- Series 2	161.00	169.50	+0.30	...
UK Pref Fxd Int	145.60	153.30	-1.20	...
UK Equity Fund	153.20	161.30	-0.60	...
Property Fund	105.50	111.10	+0.20	...
Envrnmntl Opps	151.50	159.50	-0.60	...
Euro Fund	169.50	178.50	+0.30	...
North Amer Fd	194.40	204.70	+1.20	...
Oriental Ops	212.90	224.20	+9.70	...
Japanese Fund	127.90	134.70	-1.60	...
Bd & West Life	117.50	123.70	+0.20	...
Bd & West Pen	129.20	136.00	+0.20	...
EAGLE STAR/MIDLAND 60 St Mary Axe, London EC3. 071 929 1111				
Eagle/Mid Uts	262.00	271.50	-0.70	3.37
FRIENDS' PROVIDENT Castle Street, Salisbury, Wilts SP1 3SH 0722 413366				
Managed (Mixd)	296.60	312.30	-0.80	...
UK Equity	395.70	416.60	-1.70	...
Stewardship	338.60	356.50	+2.30	...
Overseas Equity	270.00	284.30	+1.00	...
North American	146.00	153.70	+0.50	...
Pacific Basin	157.30	165.60	+2.40	...
European	194.80	205.10	-0.50	...
Property	188.20	198.20	+0.20	...
Fixed Interest	233.50	245.80	-2.20	...
Index Linked	169.00	177.90	-1.20	...
Cash	193.30	203.50	+0.10	...
GT UNIT MANAGERS LTD Alban Gate, 14th Flr, 125 London Wall, Lond EC2Y 5AS. 071 710 4567				
GT Plan Far East	346.60	364.90	+1.10	...
GT Plan Wwide	511.30	538.30	-1.10	...
GENERAL ACCIDENT 2 Rougier Street, York YO1 1HR. 0904 628982				
Managed	200.20	210.60	...	...
Unitised Profit	125.70	132.30	+0.20	...
UK Equity	268.80	282.80	-1.00	...
Fixed Int	198.40	208.90	-1.30	...
Index-Linked	170.50	179.30	-1.30	...
Cash Deposit	169.00	177.80	+0.10	...
Property	166.50	175.20	+0.10	...
International	179.90	189.30	-0.70	...
American	158.60	166.80	+1.50	...
Japan	249.60	262.60	-4.10	...
Japan Smlr Cos	255.90	269.30	-4.20	...
European	174.70	183.80	-0.60	...
Pacific Fund	267.70	281.70	+7.60	...
Conv Life	135.40	142.40	+0.70	...
GENERAL PORTFOLIO LIFE Gen Portfolio House, Harlow, Essex CM20 2EW. 0279 626262				
Portfolio Acc	707.00	707.00	+1.70	...
-do- Inv A	706.90	744.30	+1.80	...
UK Equity	397.20	418.20	-0.30	...
Gilt Plus	212.10	223.30	-1.70	...
Managed	309.80	326.20	+0.90	...
Inter Man	279.10	293.80	+1.70	...
GUARDIAN ROYAL EXCHANGE Royal Exchange London EC3. 071 283 7101				
Ass Prop Bds	682.80	711.20	-16.20	...
Managed Initial	460.00	484.20	-1.30	...
-do- Acc	639.90	673.60	-1.50	...
Equity Initial	662.40	697.20	-3.70	...
-do- Acc	921.40	969.90	-4.70	...
Fixed Int Initial	451.30	475.00	-3.00	...
-do- Acc	627.80	660.80	-3.80	...
Intl Initial	466.80	491.30	+3.40	...
-do- Acc	649.30	683.50	+5.10	...
Nth Amer Initial	185.90	195.70	-0.10	...
-do- Acc	239.40	247.80	...	...
Pacific Initial	252.20	265.40	+4.40	...
-do- Acc	318.30	332.90	+5.70	...
Property Initial	156.60	164.80	+2.90	...
-do- Acc	217.80	229.30	+4.50	...
Index-Lnkd Initl	167.80	176.60	-1.30	...
-do- Acc	212.40	223.60	-1.50	...
Deposit Initial	194.70	204.90	...	...
-do- Acc	270.80	285.10	+0.20	...
Euro Initial	97.60	102.70	-1.10	...
-do- Acc	114.30	120.30	-1.20	...
HAMBRO GUARDIAN ASSURANCE Kingsgate, 1 King Edward Road, Brentwood, Essex CM14 4HG. 0277 280939				
Managed	160.30	168.70	-0.50	...
-do- Pens	194.20	204.40	-0.80	...
UK Equity	159.60	167.90	-0.50	...
-do- Pens	179.60	189.00	-0.70	...
International	148.90	156.70	+0.70	...
-do- Pens	159.60	167.90	+0.90	...
Deposit	135.80	142.90	+0.10	...
-do- Pens	158.70	167.00	+0.30	...
HENDERSON ADMINISTRATION 3 Finsbury Avenue, London EC2M 2PA 071 638 5757				
UK Equity Fd	374.40	398.30	-0.30	...
North America	349.30	371.70	+1.90	...
Far East Fund	632.60	673.00	+9.40	...
Global Managed	467.20	497.10	+0.50	...
Deposit Fund	222.00	233.70	...	...
Prime Residential	126.00	132.70	...	...
European Fund	252.60	268.80	-1.50	...
Fixed Interest	73.00	77.70	-0.50	...
HILL SAMUEL LIFE NLA Tower, Addiscombe Road, Croydon 081 686 4355				
Security Fund	496.10	525.00	-1.00	...
British Fund	502.80	532.10	-0.60	...
International	503.40	532.70	-0.30	...
Dollar Fund	367.20	388.60	+1.50	...
Capital Fund	452.50	478.90	-0.40	...
Income Fund	687.80	727.90	-1.40	...
Property Series A	411.70	435.70	+15.90	5.90
Property Units	646.90	679.30	-3.30	...
Financial Fund	577.00	610.60	...	...
Managed Ser A	526.40	557.10	+0.60	...
-do-C	...	...	...	...
Managed Units	941.70	991.30	+1.10	...
High Yield Fund	666.20	705.00	+2.30	...
Money Series A	278.20	294.40	+0.20	...
Money Units	367.20	388.60	+0.40	...
Equity Fund	596.20	630.90	-0.60	...
Fixed Interest	382.00	404.30	-3.10	...
Indexed Secs	188.00	199.00	-1.60	...
European Fund	708.20	749.50	-1.60	...
Natural Res	268.40	284.10	+0.50	...
Far East Fund	626.70	663.20	-1.90	...
Smaller Cos	461.50	488.40	+0.60	...
Special Sits	428.60	453.60	-0.80	...
Man Currency	254.60	269.50	-1.20	...
Japanese Tech	256.00	270.90	-6.10	...
US Smaller Cos	234.00	248.30	+4.90	...
IRISH LIFE ASSURANCE Irish Life Centre, Victoria Street, St Albans, Herts AL1 5TF. 0727 48181				
Global Managed	540.90	569.40	-2.20	...
Global Property	263.50	277.40	...	...
Global Fixed Int	517.30	544.50	-4.00	...
Global Equity	573.70	603.90	-3.10	...
Global Cash	206.20	217.00	+0.20	...
LAURENTIAN LIFE Barnwood, Gloucester GL4 7RZ 0452 371371				
Gtd Mgd	490.90	516.70	-1.90	...
Property	438.80	461.80	-0.30	...
Managed	408.60	430.10	-0.40	...
American	399.50	420.50	+1.20	...
UK Equity Fd	439.10	462.20	-1.60	...
Japan	219.60	231.10	...	...
Index-Lkd	186.20	196.00	-0.90	...
High Yield	835.80	879.70	-2.20	...
Growth Cap	444.00	467.30	-2.10	...
Money	389.50	409.90	+0.30	...
International	387.00	407.30	-1.00	...
Henderson Active	215.70	227.00	+0.50	...
Perpetual Active	321.60	338.50	+1.50	...
Growth Cap	444.00	467.30	-2.10	...
-do- Acc	638.60	672.20	-0.60	...
LEGAL & GENERAL UNIT ASSURANCE 2 Montefiore Road, Hove, Sussex BN3 1SE 0273 824000				
B Soc Lnkd Init	135.00	142.20	...	...
-do- Acc	180.00	189.50	+0.20	...
Brit Opps Int	139.00	146.40	-0.70	...
-do- Acc	166.60	175.40	-0.90	...
Cash Initial	167.30	176.20	+0.20	...
-do- Acc	278.10	292.80	+0.30	...
Equity Initial	643.30	677.20	-3.50	...
-do- Acc	1069.2	1125.5	-5.70	...
Fixed Initial	365.60	384.90	-2.20	...
-do- Acc	607.60	639.60	-3.70	...
Index-Lnkd Gilt	141.80	149.30	-1.00	...
-do- Acc	201.10	211.70	-1.40	...
Intl Initial	352.70	371.30	+1.50	...
-do- Acc	577.10	607.50	+2.40	...
Managed Initial	481.40	506.80	-1.00	...
-do- Acc	800.10	842.30	-1.60	...
Property Initial	200.80	211.40	-2.50	...
-do- Acc	335.80	351.40	-4.20	...
LIFE ASSOCIATION OF SCOTLAND 113 Dundas Street, Edinburgh EH3 5EB 031 550 5000				
Managed Fund	347.60	365.90	-1.50	...
UK Equity	572.10	602.30	-2.70	...
Property	281.50	296.40	-0.10	...
Money Market	244.30	257.20	+0.20	...
Fixed Interest	324.40	341.50	-2.00	...
Japan	409.80	431.40	-8.10	...
North America	157.20	165.50	-1.90	...
International	300.20	316.00	-0.20	...
European	267.20	281.30	-0.50	...
Far East	138.30	145.60	+1.10	...
LONDON LIFE 100 Temple Street, Bristol, BS1 6EA 0272 279179				
Equity	£883.30	...	-4.70	...
Fixed Interest	£414.00	...	-2.70	...
Property	£350.90	...	+0.70	...
Deposit	£281.60	...	+0.20	...
Mixed	£576.30	...	-2.60	...
Indexed Stock	£217.00	...	-0.70	...
International	£284.30	...	-1.30	...
Equity A	£305.30	...	-1.10	...
Fixed Int A	£184.00	...	-1.20	...
Property A	£154.50	...	+0.30	...
Deposit A	£165.80	...	-0.10	...
Mixed A	£189.70	...	-0.90	...
Index Stock A	£170.30	...	-0.50	...
International A	£178.00	...	-0.70	...
Equity P	£733.20	...	-4.80	...
Fixed Int P	£536.90	...	-3.30	...
Property P	£278.80	...	-0.50	...
Deposit P	£327.80	...	+0.30	...
Mixed P	£532.00	...	-2.80	...
Index Stock P	£246.70	...	-1.20	...
International P	£330.30	...	-1.40	...
LONDON & MANCHESTER ASSURANCE Winslade Park, Exeter EX5 1DS. 0392 282456				
Inv Trust Cap	£614.00	...	-5.20	...
-do- Acc	£978.20	...	-7.40	...
Property Cap	£151.90	...	-0.10	...
-do- Acc	£233.90	...	...	...
Fxd Interest Cap	£210.90	...	-1.80	...
-do- Acc	£326.00	...	-2.50	...
Equity Cap	£323.30	...	-1.10	...
-do- Acc	£505.40	...	-1.30	...
Internatl Cap	£241.60	...	-0.90	...
-do- Acc	£374.20	...	-1.10	...
Gtd Deposit Cap	£168.90	...	-0.10	...
-do- Acc	£258.20	...	+0.10	...
Flexible Cap	£353.10	...	-1.40	...
-do- Acc	£550.80	...	-1.70	...
Moneymaker Fd	£432.90	...	-1.60	...
Capital Growth	£1619.1	...	-4.00	...
M & G Victoria Road, Chelmsford, Essex CM1 1FB 0245 266266				
Amer Bond Acc	405.00	425.30	-5.30	...
Amer Rec Bond	476.60	500.50	-0.80	...
Am Smlr Cos Bd	236.10	248.00	-4.50	...
Australasia Bd	220.90	232.10	-1.00	...
Commodity Bond	264.60	278.00	-0.50	...
Deposit Bond Acc	349.90	367.50	+0.20	...
Equity Bond Acc	1410.5	1481.2	-14.10	...
European Bd Acc	347.30	364.70	-3.40	...
Extra Yld Bd Acc	707.30	742.70	-2.60	...
Far East Bd Acc	317.80	333.70	+2.50	...
Gilt Bond Acc	456.90	479.90	-3.60	...
Gold Bond Acc	151.40	159.00	+0.30	...
High Yield Bond	344.20	361.50	-3.00	...
Index-Lnk Gl Bd	217.80	228.70	-1.60	...
International Bd	734.00	770.80	-3.80	...
Japan Bond Acc	273.90	287.60	-7.50	...
Japan Sm Cos Ac	258.50	271.50	-2.70	...
Managed Bonds	855.90	898.90	-4.30	...
Prop Bond Acc	347.70	365.20	+0.20	...
Rec Bond Acc	710.40	746.00	-1.20	...
MGM ASSURANCE MGM House, Heene Road, Worthing BN11 2DY. 0903 204631				
UK Equity	226.90	238.90	-0.30	...
UK Equity Acc	307.90	324.20	-0.20	...
Special Sits	92.30	97.20	-0.20	...
Special Sits Acc	125.40	132.00	-0.30	...
North American	183.90	193.60	-0.40	...
N American Acc	249.70	262.90	-0.30	...
Pacific Basin	385.10	405.40	+2.40	...
Pacific Basin Acc	522.80	550.40	+3.70	...
Fixed Interest	302.90	318.90	-2.50	...
Fixed Interest Acc	411.60	433.30	-3.30	...
Property	154.80	163.00	+0.30	...
Property Acc	210.40	221.50	+0.50	...
Deposit	152.00	160.00	...	...
Deposit Acc	207.00	217.90	+0.20	...
Managed	261.60	275.40	-0.60	...
Managed Acc	327.20	344.50	-0.60	...
MANULIFE GROUP St Georges Way, Stevenage, Herts 0438 356101				
Managed Fund	691.60	728.00	-1.70	...
Property Fund	480.90	506.20	+0.60	...
Equity Fund	870.10	915.90	-2.70	...
Gilt Edged Fd	622.60	655.40	-3.00	...
Deposit Fund	319.30	336.10	+0.20	...
Investment Fd	369.10	387.50	-1.30	...
International	558.80	588.20	-2.20	...
MERCHANT INVESTORS St Bartholomews House, Lewins Mead Bristol BS1 2NH 0272 266 366				
Property	419.30	441.30	-1.10	...
UK Equity	338.00	355.70	-1.00	...
Gilt Edged	584.90	615.60	+0.30	...
Interest Fund	367.50	386.80	+0.60	...
UK Fund	480.40	505.60	-0.10	...
Intl Equity	587.40	618.30	+4.30	...
Intl Managed	553.70	582.80	+4.20	...
North American	209.40	220.40	+1.60	...
Far East	456.70	480.70	+3.90	...
Intl Currency	265.90	279.80	-0.30	...
NM LIFE ASSURANCE Enterprise House, Portsmouth 0705 827733				
Equity	142.10	149.50	+0.20	...
Fixed Interest	545.00	573.60	-3.80	...
Managed	679.40	715.10	+0.80	...
Deposit	328.80	346.10	+0.50	...
Property	391.10	411.60	+0.50	...
American	409.60	431.10	-1.40	...
Australian	510.30	537.10	+0.90	...
European	506.90	533.50	-9.40	...
Gilt & Fixed Int	262.70	276.50	-0.80	...
Global Managed	136.60	143.70	-0.20	...
Income Acc	758.50	798.40	-2.80	...
-do- Dist	486.80	512.40	+2.40	4.51
International	317.40	334.10	+3.50	...
Japan Smaller	513.20	540.20	-12.10	...
Singapore & Mal	374.80	394.50	+7.40	...
Smaller Cos	383.80	404.00	+1.60	...
Tokyo Fund	672.10	707.40	-19.50	...
UK Equity	575.60	605.80	-8.70	...
CCM Vangd Mg	720.50	758.40	-1.90	...
Equity Pens Cap	974.30	1025.5	+1.40	...
NPI 48 Gracechurch Street, London EC3P 3HH 071 623 4200				
Managed	465.20	489.60	-2.10	...
UK Equity	579.80	610.30	-3.70	...
Overseas Equity	464.50	488.90	-0.30	...
American	412.00	433.60	-1.10	...
Far East	531.10	559.00	+4.00	...
Property	198.60	209.00	-1.70	...
Fixed Interest	366.20	385.40	-3.20	...
Indexed Gilt	235.10	247.40	-1.40	...
Deposit	209.00	219.90	-0.20	...
NORWICH UNION LIFE INSURANCE SOCIETY - Ex NUAM Funds PO Box 140, Norwich NR3 1PP 0603 622200				
Managed Fund	1351.7	1422.8	-2.70	...
Eqty Fund	2933.9	3088.3	-15.50	...
Property Fd	468.90	493.60	-3.00	...
Fixed Int Fd	600.60	632.20	-3.70	...
Deposit Fund	334.90	352.40	-0.30	...
Intl Fund	233.60	245.90	-1.10	...
PEARL ASSURANCE The Pearl Centre, Lynch Wood, Peterborough PE2 6FY. 0733 470 470				
Inv Prop Dis	146.80	154.60	-8.90	...
Prop Acc (Gross)	295.70	311.30	-0.30	...
Inv Equity	1186.5	1249.0	-7.40	...
Inv Managed	826.20	869.70	-2.30	...
Ret Managed	915.80	964.10	-7.40	...
PROLIFIC LIFE & PENSIONS LTD Stramongate, Kendal, Cumbria LA9 4UB 0539 733733				
Bal Gwth Mngd	775.30	824.80	+2.80	...
Cash Fund	327.30	344.90	+0.20	...
Property Fund	226.30	240.80	-0.30	...
Equity Fund	914.90	973.30	+2.30	...
Fxd Interest Fund	456.50	481.10	-0.60	...
International	410.40	436.60	+1.60	...
High Income	690.30	734.40	-3.80	...
Far East	573.40	610.00	+5.10	...
North American	549.80	584.90	-1.00	...
Special Sits	623.60	663.50	+0.40	...
Technology	528.40	562.20	+1.50	...
Extra Income Fd	369.40	393.00	-1.10	...
Gilt Fund	476.90	507.40	-1.00	...
European	150.20	159.80	-0.30	...
Adventurous Mg	212.80	226.10	-0.40	...
Secure Mgd	143.10	152.30	-0.30	...
Equity Inc Dist	119.50	127.20	-0.10	4.64
North American	112.80	120.00	-1.20	5.19
PROVIDENCE CAPITOL 2 Bartley Way, Hook, Hants RG27 9XA 0256 768888				
Equity Fund Acc	286.70	302.50	-2.20	...
Fxd Interest Acc	240.70	254.00	-1.70	...
International Acc	255.70	269.80	+0.10	...
Managed Acc	219.50	231.60	-0.60	...
Property Acc	221.10	233.30	+0.80	...
Money Acc	149.00	157.20	+0.10	...
Spec Mkt Acc	220.30	232.40	+1.10	...
Japan Equity Acc	127.70	134.80	-3.20	...
N Amer Acc	163.40	172.40	+1.00	...
Pacific Acc	164.80	173.90	+2.70	...
European Acc	164.00	173.10	-1.40	...
PROVIDENT MUTUAL William Road, Hitchin, Herts SG4 0LP 0438 739000				
Managed Ord	453.80	477.70	-2.90	...
Managed Initial	317.10	333.80	-2.30	...
Equity Ord	677.40	713.10	-7.60	...
Equity Init	473.40	498.30	-5.70	...
I-Linked Gilt Ord	208.20	219.20	-1.40	...
I-Linked Gilt Init	152.00	160.00	-1.20	...
Oseas Equity Ord	376.30	396.10	-0.30	...
Oseas Equity Init	263.00	276.80	-0.50	...
Property Ord	237.20	249.70	+1.70	...
Property Init	165.70	174.40	+0.90	...
Fixed Int Ord	283.00	297.90	-1.80	...
Fixed Int Init	197.80	208.20	-1.40	...
Deposit Ord	199.30	209.80	+0.20	...
Deposit Initial	139.30	146.60	...	...
PRUDENTIAL Holborn Bars, London EC1N 2NH 071 405 9222				
Managed	328.40	342.10	+2.60	...
PRUDENTIAL INDIVIDUAL LIFE FUNDS 1 Stephen Street, London W1P 2AP 071 548 3278				
Managed Fund	743.40	782.60	-2.30	...
Equity Fund	1428.6	1503.8	-9.00	...
Intl Fund	594.80	626.20	-1.10	...
Fixed Interest	581.70	612.40	-3.60	...
Property Fund	385.20	405.50	+3.60	...
Cash Fund	353.30	371.90	+0.20	...
Pacific Basin	353.30	371.90	+2.00	...
N American Fd	245.90	258.90	-1.50	...
Euro Fund	254.40	267.80	...	...
Balanced Fund	149.20	157.10	-0.40	...
Strategic Fund	153.30	161.40	-0.80	...
ROYAL HERITAGE LIFE ASSURANCE Peterborough Business Park, Peterborough PE2 6GG. 0733 390000				
Mult Grow (45)	1713.00	...	...	...
-do- Acc	450.50	474.20	...	...
Op Prop	429.70	452.40	-0.30	...
Op Equity	882.80	929.30	-9.10	...
Op High Yield	584.90	615.70	-3.60	...
Op Managed	767.50	807.90	-3.70	...
Op Deposit	379.60	399.60	+0.40	...
Inc Gth	313.60	330.20	-1.20	...
Japan Smlr	253.70	267.10	-1.70	...
Managed Gth	257.20	270.80	-0.90	...
Gilt	84.50	89.00	+0.10	...
British	356.40	375.20	-0.70	...
Global Bond	119.70	126.00	-0.70	...
Global (35,34)	175.20	184.50	+0.20	...
Gold Share	82.00	86.40	+2.40	...
High Income	306.60	322.80	-1.60	...
Income	442.70	466.00	-1.50	...
Japan	433.70	456.60	-11.60	...
UK Smlr Cos	302.40	318.40	+3.70	...
Mngd Growth	447.00	470.60	+0.80	...
ROYAL LIFE INSURANCE New Hall Place, Liverpool L69 3HS 051 239 3000				
Royal Shield Fd	925.70	979.50	-1.40	...
Royal Life Unit Linked				
Managed Fund	369.70	389.10	-0.40	...
Equity Fund	512.00	538.90	-1.90	...
Property Fund	275.40	289.80	+5.70	...
International	474.80	499.70	+1.20	...
Pacific Basin	300.10	315.80	-0.40	...
United States	244.90	257.60	-2.00	...
Gilt Fund	365.30	384.50	-2.10	...
SAVE & PROSPER 16-22 Western Road, Romford, Essex RM1 3LB. 0708 766966				
Bal Inv Fund	726.00	768.30	-0.90	2.51
Deposit Fund (2)	355.60	376.30	+0.40	6.00
Gilt Fund	520.60	551.00	-4.50	6.80
Global Equity Fd	229.20	243.60	-0.10	...
Property Fund (46)	89.90	95.20	...	7.10
AG Bond Fund	149.90	158.70	-1.40	...
SCOTTISH AMICABLE 150 St Vincent Street, Glasgow 041 248 2323				
Equity	558.70	588.20	-4.50	...
Fixed Interest	373.00	392.70	-5.30	...
Index-Linked	203.80	214.60	-1.40	...
International	449.60	473.30	-1.00	...
Property	251.80	265.10	-0.30	...
Cash	223.20	235.00	...	...
Managed	445.90	469.40	-2.30	...
Cap Gteed Bd	108.30	113.90	-1.80	...
SCOTTISH EQUITABLE 28 St Andrew Square, Edinburgh EH2 1YF 031 556 9101				
Cash	175.13	184.35	+0.13	...
Index-Linked	165.30	174.00	-0.70	...
Fixed Interest	181.70	191.30	-1.40	...
Mixed	247.30	260.40	-1.30	...
UK Equity	235.40	247.80	-1.70	...
International	250.90	264.20	-0.60	...
American	254.30	267.60	-0.70	...
Japan	242.70	255.50	-4.30	...
European	234.90	247.20	-2.90	...
Pacific	361.70	380.70	+5.40	...
Technology	328.50	345.80	-0.20	...
Currncy/Currncy	231.40	243.60	-1.80	...
SCOTTISH LIFE INVESTMENTS 19 St Andrews Square, Edinburgh EH2 1YE 031 225 2211				
Property	186.90	196.90	+3.00	...
UK Equity	346.50	364.80	-1.80	...
American	251.80	265.10	-2.20	...
Pacific	361.70	380.90	+5.70	...
European	460.40	484.70	-2.20	...
International	310.20	326.60	+0.40	...
Fixed Interest	246.20	259.20	-2.90	...
Index Linked	202.40	213.20	-1.90	...
Deposit	187.60	197.50	+0.10	...
Managed	280.30	295.20	-0.60	...
Worldwide	126.40	133.10	+0.30	...
Pen Worldwide	134.60	141.80	+0.50	...
SCOTTISH MUTUAL ASSURANCE 109 St Vincent Street, Glasgow G2 5HN 041 248 6321				
Flex Fund (35)	1578.0	1626.8	...	...
Safety Fund	235.70	248.20	-1.90	...
Growth Fund	225.00	236.90	-1.20	...
Opportunity Fd	220.90	232.60	-1.20	...
Cash Fund	168.70	177.60	+0.10	...
European Fund	334.80	352.50	-6.30	...
Gilts & Fxd Int	201.40	212.10	-2.20	...
Index-Linked Fd	186.60	196.50	-1.70	...
International Fd	287.40	302.60	-0.20	...
North American	244.50	257.40	-0.20	...
Property Fund	118.20	124.50	-0.20	...
UK Equity	236.10	248.60	-1.30	...
UK Smaller	214.30	225.60	-0.40	...
SCOTTISH PROVIDENT 6 St Andrews Square, Edinburgh EH2 2YA 031 556 9181				
Mixed	259.50	273.30	-0.30	...
Equity	273.40	287.90	-0.30	...
International	277.80	292.50	+1.00	...
Property	200.80	211.50	+1.20	...
Fixed Interest	221.80	233.60	-0.10	...
Index Linked	184.30	194.10	-1.10	...
Cash	181.30	191.00	+0.10	...
SCOTTISH WIDOWS PO Box 902, Edinburgh EH16 5BU 031 655 6000				
Inv Pol 1	938.50	938.50	...	...
Inv Pol 2	855.30	900.40	...	...
Inv Pol 3	822.10	865.40	...	...
Inv Cash	302.30	318.30	...	...
Mixed Fund	445.00	468.50	-4.20	...
Equity Fund	520.50	548.00	-3.70	...
Property Fund	210.80	222.00	-0.40	...
International Fd	480.50	505.90	-1.40	...
Fixed Interest Fd	381.60	401.80	-2.50	...
Indexed Stock Fd	204.30	215.10	-1.50	...
Cash Fund	220.10	231.80	+0.10	...
SKANDIA LIFE Skandia House, Portland Terrace, Southampton SO9 7BX 0703 334411				
Managed Acc	364.40	383.50	-0.10	...
Equity Acc	422.70	444.90	+0.60	...
International Acc	344.10	362.20	-1.20	...
Property	210.50	221.50	+0.20	...
Royal Trust Mg	234.20	246.50	-0.30	...
STANDARD LIFE ASSURANCE CO 3 George Street, Edinburgh EH2 2XZ 031 225 2552				
Cash	260.10	273.80	+0.20	...
Equity	968.60	1019.6	-6.80	...
European	163.20	171.80	-0.40	...
Far East	173.90	183.10	+2.00	...
Fixed Interest	406.80	428.30	-2.70	...
Index Linked	211.80	223.00	-1.40	...
International	615.50	647.90	+3.40	...
Managed	685.30	721.40	-2.30	...
Nth American	146.70	154.50	+0.80	...
Property	324.20	341.30	-0.90	...
Pensions				
Cash	400.50	421.60	+0.40	...
Equity	1392.0	1465.3	-11.70	...
European	195.80	206.20	-0.90	...
Far East	139.90	147.30	+1.90	...
Fixed Interest	547.20	576.00	-1.40	...
Index Linked	293.60	309.10	-1.90	...
International	870.10	915.90	+4.80	...
Managed	959.80	1010.4	-4.10	...
Nth American	183.50	193.20	+1.00	...
Property	415.80	437.70	+1.80	...
Stock Exchange	217.20	228.70	-1.00	...
SUN ALLIANCE St Mark's Court, Horsham, Sussex 0403 232323				
Managed Fund	642.60	676.50	-3.30	...
Equity Fund	848.10	892.80	-4.00	...
Fixed Interest Fd	425.50	447.90	-2.80	...
Index-Linked Fd	312.30	328.80	-2.20	...
Property Fund	460.00	484.30	+10.00	...
International Fd	626.80	659.80	-4.80	...
N American Fd	242.60	255.40	+1.40	...
Far East Fund	229.90	242.00	+4.80	...
Deposit Fund	285.30	300.40	+0.20	...
International Bd	£86.42	...	+0.09	...
Worldwide Bond	166.90	175.70	-1.60	...
Worldwide Fincl	79.60	83.80	...	...
Worldwide Tech	94.70	99.70	+0.10	...
European	158.00	166.40	-0.60	...
Phoenix Assurance				
Wealth Assured	634.00	667.50	-1.30	...
Ebor Phoenix Eq	453.50	482.10	...	...
Property Growth				
Property Fund	£527.00	...	+10.90	...
-do- Acc	£493.80	...	+10.20	...
Agricultural Fd	£772.30	...	-0.70	...
-do- Acc	£742.00	...	+0.60	...
Abbey Nat Fd	£403.20	...	+4.40	...
Abbey Nat Acc	£427.90	...	+4.70	...
Investment Fd	£340.10	...	-1.70	...
Investment (A)	£327.10	...	-1.60	...
Equity	£1227.2	...	-5.40	...
Equity Acc	£1178.1	...	-5.20	...
Money Fund	£452.60	...	+0.40	...
-do- Acc	£433.70	...	+0.30	...
Actuarial Fd	£370.80	...	-2.70	...
Gilt-Edged Fd	£397.30	...	-2.40	...
-do- Acc	£397.30	...	-2.40	...
Retire Annuity	£1039.7	...	...	...
Immed Annuity	£313.50	...	+9.00	...
Bldg Soc Life	£218.40	...	+0.10	...
SUN LIFE OF CANADA Basingview, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 2DZ Dealing: 0256 841414				
Growth Account	£1427.3	...	-3.30	...
Managed Acc	£820.50	...	+13.70	...
Equity Account	£1161.5	...	+22.10	...
Mngd Fund Acc	379.60	399.60	+6.60	...
Equity Fund Acc	510.70	537.60	+10.10	...
Prop Fund Acc	226.40	238.40	+0.20	...
Fixed Int Fd Acc	319.60	336.50	+3.80	...
Money Fund Acc	214.80	226.20	+0.30	...
Indx-Link Scs Ac	215.40	226.70	+1.70	...
Pers Pens Accs	£1828.5	...	+23.60	...
Pens Mngd Acct	850.10	894.90	+11.60	...
Pens Guarantee	229.50	241.60	+0.40	...
Pens Equity	324.90	342.00	-6.20	...
Pens Property	250.70	264.00	+0.50	...
Pens Fixed Int	289.10	304.30	+2.20	...
Pens Intl	237.30	249.80	+1.80	...
Pens Money	226.90	238.90	+0.30	...
Pens Indx-Lnkd	202.10	212.70	+0.90	...
SUN LIFE UNIT St James Barton, Bristol BS99 7SL 0272 426911				
Managed Acc	879.30	925.60	+0.10	...
Property Acc	322.00	339.00	-0.50	...
Equity Acc	1425.0	1500.1	-0.40	...
Fixed Int Acc	400.30	421.40	-4.50	...
Index-Linked Acc	210.20	221.30	-2.30	...
Cash Acc	299.30	315.10	+0.50	...
Amer Equity Acc	356.00	374.80	+0.60	...
Japan Acc	307.50	323.70	-6.90	...
Pacific Acc	354.60	373.30	+10.10	...
Far Eastern Acc	836.30	880.40	+17.90	...
International Acc	569.50	599.50	+5.90	...
Distribution Fund	295.10	310.70	-1.00	6.03
European	182.30	191.90	...	...
TSB LIFE LTD Charlton Place, Andover, Hants, SP10 1RE 0264 345678				
Managed Fund	279.30	294.10	-0.20	...
Property Fund	189.50	199.60	-0.40	...
Fixed Interest Fd	226.30	238.30	-1.40	...
Money Fund	193.30	203.60	+0.20	...
Equity Fund	366.00	385.30	+0.50	...
TARGET LIFE The Exchange, 66 High Street, Aylesbury, Bucks. 0296 394000				
Deposit	241.80	254.60	+0.10	...
Financial Ser 1	48.50	52.00	-0.10	...
Fixed Interest	326.30	343.60	-0.30	...
Gold	87.10	91.70	+2.40	...
Managed	617.40	650.00	+10.40	...
Mngd Growth	196.80	206.30	+8.90	...
Mngd Opp	206.80	217.80	+10.00	...
Property	265.10	279.10	...	...
Residential Prop	93.50	98.50	...	...
TSB American	213.40	224.70	+2.00	...
TSB Brit Gwth	819.60	862.90	+7.50	...
TSB European	269.40	283.70	-0.20	...
TSB Income	398.70	419.80	+7.20	...
TSB Intl	424.00	446.30	+7.20	...
TSB Intl Inc	292.40	307.90	-0.90	...
TSB Pacific	410.80	432.50	+10.60	...
TSB Prem Inc	264.00	275.90	-0.20	...
WINDSOR LIFE Windsor House, Telford, Shropshire 0952 292929				
Managed Bond	692.60	729.80	-7.10	...
Money Fund	306.40	322.50	+0.30	...
Equity Fund	586.50	618.00	+3.00	...
Fixed Interest	280.70	295.80	+2.00	...
Property Fund	339.70	358.00	...	...
Gresham Framlington				
American & Genl	577.00	608.00	+0.30	...
Income	721.60	760.40	-1.20	...
International Gth	616.80	649.90	-2.20	...
Capital Fund	598.00	630.10	-0.80	...
Recovery Fund	611.30	644.20	+3.00	...
Japan & General	279.20	294.20	-1.90	...

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An official crackdown on dodgy deposits

Taking the heat out of family fuel bills

The threat of VAT and concern about global warming call for a better use of energy. **Sara McConnell** investigates the latest in fuel saving measures

The prospect of large rises in fuel bills as VAT is added next April concentrates the mind wonderfully on finding ways of cutting down on heating and lighting costs.

It will almost certainly be the threat of VAT rather than enthusiasm for the government's high-minded, but uninspiringly named "Helping the Earth Begins at Home" week that will encourage people to take action. The campaign, running this week and supported by government-funded advertising, has as one of its ulterior motives the government's need to meet its international commitment to stabilise carbon dioxide emissions at 1990 levels by 2000. A useful by-product should be that the addition of VAT has less of a negative impact. Ironically for the government, it will also mean a lower tax take.

Unless Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, experiences a Pauline conversion before next month's Budget, VAT at a reduced rate of 8 per cent will be added to all domestic heating and lighting bills from April 1994. The following April, VAT will be levied at the full rate of 17.5 per cent. Friends of the Earth calculates that the 8 per cent rate will add £50 a year to the average household's bills, while a 17.5 per cent rate will add £100.

Mr Clarke came under pressure from ministers this week to introduce the tax in one instalment rather than two, some suggesting he should keep it at the lower rate, and others saying he should go straight for the higher rate. Either way, VAT seems certain to be here to stay.

Many people have little idea about the energy they consume, or how they can make their homes more energy efficient, says the National Energy Foundation. And it should know. For the last three years, the NEF, a registered charity, has been touring the country, rating new and existing houses for their energy efficiency and suggesting ways of improving insulation and cutting down on bills.

It obviously has some way to go. The average home scores a dismal 4.3 out of ten on the National Energy Foundation's national home energy rating scale, says the NEF's Megan Flack, taking in the 15-year-old boiler, the uncurtained sitting room windows and the large expanses of outside wall in my two-bedroom London flat.

The NEF now has 400 assessors and charges between £60 and £80 for a two-hour visit. All the measurements and data on heating, lighting and cooking appliances is keyed into a laptop computer that then gives the verdict and solutions (some obvious and embarrassingly simple, others costing thousands of pounds and taking more than 100 years to recoup costs).

Vic Harrison, one of NEF's assessors, took out a tape measure and started noting down the dimensions of each room in my flat, while Ms Flack explained that all the assessors' work was monitored by the NEF, partly to detect any trace of bias or attempts to use energy efficiency as a sales tactic.

Assessors are recruited and trained by NEF from British Gas, the electricity companies and builders. Worthy citizens all, but they could be tempted, said Ms Flack. "Our aim is to protect consumers." She added, lowering her voice: "There is always a fear of double glazing salesmen using energy savings as a sales pitch for instance. We don't recommend brands."

Buyers of new houses, which will shortly come with an energy rating certificate if government proposals go through, need to make sure each house in a development has its own certificate. It is not unknown for developers to have one for the show house and lead people into believing all are equally energy efficient.

Meanwhile, my inner city window locks were temporarily defeating Mr Harrison, who needed to hang out of the sitting room window to work out how the house, a solid Victorian detached villa, circa 1870, was constructed. Insulation was not the Victorians' strong point. Almost all houses built before 1900 are constructed of solid brickwork with no cavity wall insulation, which more modern homes generally have as standard. Councils have been adding an extra layer of insulation to the outsides of council houses built in the 1950s and 1960s.

There followed several anxious moments while Mr Harrison turned the gas boiler on and off to test whether it fired unnecessarily when the room thermostat was right down. A broken boiler would have been unwelcome (although energy saving). An examination of the tank and thermostat in the airing cupboard and a series of questions on heating and lighting usage later, Mr Harrison's laptop informed me that my flat had achieved a National Home Energy Rating of 4.3 out of ten, dead on average for older houses. The average home built to 1990 regulations scores six. If my flat had not been on the first floor, sandwiched between two others, it might well have been lower. My flat is also responsible for producing a horrifying 8.6 tonnes of carbon dioxide (CO_2) emissions a year, again exactly the average. CO_2 is the major greenhouse gas causing global warming and is released into the air when fuel is burnt.

Space heating, of rooms as opposed to water, accounted for more than half the £718 annual running cost. Much of the heat generated is absorbed by the walls and lost. It did not help that the standard boiler is old.

Cheap and easy solutions for cutting costs and saving energy in any house include insulating lofts, tanks and pipes. Radical solutions in flats, particularly older conversion flats, are limited and can be costly.

As the chart shows, wall insulation in my flat would cost £2,200 and timber softwood double glazing £3,300. However, these two, plus a new boiler, would cut the annual bill by nearly £300. Energy efficiency can add to a house's resale value. Tony Clark, general secretary at the National Association of Estate Agents (NAEA), says: "People are interested in energy efficiency and have a great awareness of it".

The insulation of lofts, and double glazing, can be a good selling point, says Mr Clark, adding that those considering double glazing or replacement should be careful to get planning permission if they are in a conservation area.



STEPHEN MARKESON

Megan Flack runs the rule over a typical hot spot that can affect the housekeeping

Tax idea 'can save energy'

THE government should link the level of tax relief on mortgage interest to the energy efficiency of the property being bought, to encourage homeowners to improve insulation in their homes, Friends of the Earth said this week. Homes should have a compulsory rating to allow buyers to gauge a home's energy efficiency.

In a new book, *Take the Heat off the Planet*, the lobby group also calls for "tough compulsory energy efficiency and fuel efficiency standards" for new buildings, appliances and cars, and changes to regulations governing gas and electricity companies to encourage them to invest in improving the energy efficiency of customers' homes. At the moment, they make profits from selling more, not less, energy.

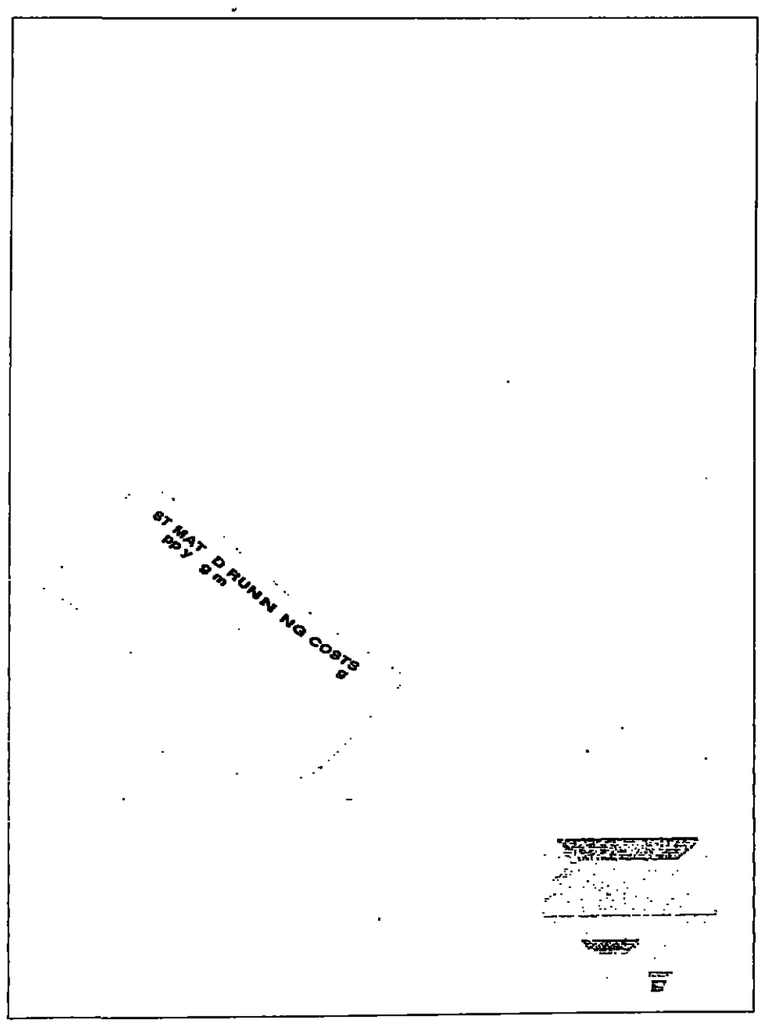
Simon Roberts, the group's energy campaigner, said: "Individuals have a responsibility to control their energy emissions, but the government is also responsible."

The government has been slow to follow the example of its Dutch and Danish counterparts and encourage the sale of energy-saving household appliances.

Until regulations are brought in, the book suggests ways of cutting costs and saving energy. For example, people buying a new fridge should choose one that runs on fewer than 150 units of electricity a year. This would save £14 a year and 2.1 per cent of household emissions.

☐ *Take the Heat off the Planet* (£3.45 inc P&P, *Friends of the Earth, 56 Alma Street, Luton, Beds LU1 2YZ*)

Weekend Money is edited by Rose Wild



More tough medicine needed

COMMENT



SARA McCONNELL
Personal finance correspondent

What do General Accident Life, Commercial Union Life, Norwich Union, Scottish Widows and Guardian Royal Exchange have in common? There are two answers. The first is that they are all household names, advertising frequently on television and in the press. Between them, they cover the lives and manage the investments of a large swathe of the population. The second is that they have all been fined large sums of money by their regulator, the Life Assurance and Unit Trust Regulatory Organisation (Lautro), in the past year for failing to stop their tied agents selling unsuitable insurance policies to the public.

The five companies, along with eight lesser-known life insurers, have between them notched up fines totalling more than £1 million in a single year. This week, it emerged that the list of offenders is likely to be three companies longer by the end of this year. Again, the three as yet unnamed companies are household names.

For better or worse (and in these cases obviously worse), large, well-known companies are perceived by the public to be the most reliable and trustworthy. Offered a choice between an unknown life company and one advertising its policies on television as the key to solving all life's problems, most people would obviously go for the brand name. Many readers of Weekend Money, finding that they have been at best misadvised and at worst conned by an agent of a well-known company, feel a sense of betrayal.

Out-and-out fraud is fortunately still comparatively rare, although there have been some well-publicised cases in the last few years. Far more common is blatant mis-selling. In many cases, people have been persuaded to take out long-term policies, sometimes for life, when all they wanted was a simple short-term savings plan. Others have been advised to come out of a good company pension scheme into a personal pension, which rarely offers the same benefits. Some companies have specifically targeted vulnerable sectors of the community such as students and nurses. Anyone trying to cash in a mis-sold policy will almost certainly not get their money back. Meanwhile, the salesmen are rubbing their hands at the thought of their commission.

Insurers may deny it but it is in their interests not to be too fussy about what their agents sell. They make profits by selling policies. They need to encourage their salesmen with large commissions and bonuses. Some (although not all) the offending companies know that the only way they will make any money is to have an army of hard-sell agents. In many cases, companies do not even check references before letting them loose. Some of them would not know the difference between a pension and a life assurance policy because they used to sell double glazing or encyclopaedias. But they know how to get their foot in the door and a couple of days' training should see them right. Most independent advisers would not touch these poor-performing, costly policies with the proverbial barge pole.

Lautro's case load of complaints has almost doubled in the last year, a tribute to greater consumer awareness. It is imposing fines more frequently, which is welcome, and publicising them, which is even more welcome. More of the same please, and more often.

Marriage off

So the mega-merger is off. The managements of the Leeds Permanent and National & Provincial building societies have decided they cannot stomach each other's business styles and would rather be competitors than bedfellows. At least they discovered their mutual incompatibility before they went too far to turn back. The members of the two societies would undoubtedly have been the ones to suffer under a confused and fractious management. Anyone who thinks that running a building society is easy should look at the impact on members of poor management. An inconsistent policy on setting rates, particularly for savers, poor administration and unresponsive staff are just some of the problems that have cropped up in the past at various societies.

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My home is my prison

Council tenants who buy their homes may subsequently find it impossible to sell them, Richard Milner reports



PETER TREVINOR

Mark Green, one of the Westminster leaseholders who want the council to buy homes back

Sir George Young, the housing minister, is pushing the government's new Rent to Mortgage scheme to encourage council tenants to buy their homes. But Westminster council, which has converted 6,000 tenants to owners under the Right to Buy scheme, is under fire for making it almost impossible for them to resell.

Rent to Mortgage schemes enable aspiring homeowners to dip their toes in the water. Whatever they have paid in rent, they can provide in mortgage payments. But they own only 40 per cent of their homes to start with, working their way up to full ownership by easy stages. Right to Buy pitched them in at the deep end. It offered them the chance to buy their homes at discounts to "market" prices — up to 70 per cent if they had lived in them for 25 years. But the scheme exposed them to the risk of massive bills for their share of communal works.

> Nobody would buy a flat with such huge bills on the horizon

Realising that this might be a deterrent, Westminster council has, since 1987, offered tenant buyers on Right to Buy schemes an indemnity in the 125-year leases. For ten years, they are exempt from charges for any major building works. But if they sell, buyers do not benefit.

That became clear when David Fitzgerald put his two bedroom ex-council flat up for sale. He had bought it for a maximum £50,000 discount on an estimated market value of £74,000 four years previously and found a buyer at £59,000. Then came the bombshell. "I suggested he should check with the council," Mr Fitzgerald says, "and they told him to expect charges of £25,000-£50,000 over the next couple of years on major works." He called in a solicitor. "Now I may have to stay on myself. I hope the work is done before my indemnity runs out."

A federation of Westminster council leaseholders has been formed, with 800 to 1,000 members, to put pressure on the council to buy back their homes.

Another long-term council tenant bought his two-bedroom flat in Marylebone for £17,000, five years ago. It was then valued at £54,000. Finding a mortgage was not easy. "City of Westminster had to talk to National & Provincial," he recalls. Much later, the ex-tenant learnt that his indemnity was ticking away. "It's a time-bomb," he says.

Mark Green, of the leaseholders' federation, points out that Westminster council has defined what kind of work it will pay for during the life of the indemnity. Structural repairs to roofs, walls and foundations qualify, wear-and-tear repairs are discretionary. "Improvements" do not qualify. The council worked out that it would cost £1.75 million to buy the 50 flats that owners on Mr Green's estate wanted to sell back.

Paul Hayler, Westminster's director of home sales, insists that what happened to Mr Fitzgerald is not the council's policy. "We have a few big bills of £10,000 or £15,000 but very few," he says. "Our average bill for works is about £2,000.... We don't want people chasing a fast buck. But there comes a time to move, say to a new job. We are exploring what we can do to help existing leaseholders."

Former tenants in 28 of 32 London boroughs have difficulties in reselling, according to the Association of London Authorities (ALA). But this is put down to "market difficulties" rather than heavy renovation bills. Mortgage lenders are backing off, and council buy-backs are not popular.

"Publicity about Rent to Mortgage should come with a public health warning," says Pete Challis, one of the association's officials. "People who were encouraged to buy in the boom now find themselves high and dry in the slump. If tenants are buying with one eye on moving in the future, they are in for a shock."

Some lenders object to non-traditional construction. Nationwide is against concrete panels, for example. Halifax might accept, subject to a 30-year structural engineering guarantee.

Alliance & Leicester will not lend above the third floor in a tower block, both the Leeds and TSB will not say yes above the fourth (and Leeds turns down flats with balcony access); Halifax draws the line at five storeys, NatWest Bank is prepared to go to eight.

Only Abbey National told the ALA: "We consider lending on high rise flats so long as the construction is sound. We'll look at anything."

Kasparov's latest move is a whole new board game

The king of world chess is to become a director of a new BES scheme

Garry Kasparov, Russia's world chess champion, £1 million richer after his victory over Nigel Short, the UK grandmaster, is about to become a company director on the board of Cadogan Books, a publisher of guides, which is raising £750,000 through a business expansion scheme (Richard Milner writes).

Kasparov is a key writer for Cadogan, which took over the Maxwell Macmillan chess and bridge book list. Kasparov has written three books, and there are three about him.

Bill Colegrave, Cadogan chairman, says: "Garry Kasparov will be our chess consultant. But he will also make a contribution to the travel guide books, particularly in Eastern Europe. He is very much in tune with contemporary Russian politics."



Kasparov: key writer

Since the takeover in 1992, 16 new titles have been published — one on the Bobby Fischer v Boris Spassky rematch, which was in the shops within 72 hours — and Cadogan has expanded into chess product merchandising.

Before he became a publisher, Mr Colegrave was in banking, financing ships, aircraft and enterprise zones. He sold out to Johnson Fry six years ago for about £3 million and bought Cadogan from Metal Bulletin in 1989. He sold 47 general book titles, keeping only 13 guide books. There are now 35.

Cadogan — appearing in the twilight weeks of the business expansion scheme — is the kind of promising but potentially risky small business the scheme was designed to finance.

Mr Colegrave, who has put £280,000 of his money into the business, wants to tie in small booksellers. The minimum subscription is £1,050, or 1,400 shares at 75p, but booksellers can buy 700 for £525.

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Locking the family in to keep the thieves out

Margaret Dibben says insurers are having to rethink rules on security because of the need to escape quickly from a burning house at night

The Association of British Insurers (ABI) is about to recommend that household insurers do not insist on keys being taken out of window and door locks overnight. The ABI is preparing new guidelines for the industry on minimum standards of security, due to be published before the year end, which will point out that insurers should think very carefully about safety implications, particularly the need to escape from fire, before they make it a condition of the policy that keys are removed from locks at all times.

At present some insurance companies require householders to remove the keys from locks not only while they are out of the house but also at night when they are home in bed. But making it difficult for the burglar to get in, also makes it slower for the family to escape from a fire.

Mike Sibley, general branch underwriter of the Prudential, explains: "We have a stipulation that keys are removed as part and parcel of our security wording. We have had a lot of discussion about this and our view is that people generally know where they keep their keys and the incidences of fire engulfing a whole house are rarer than thefts."

If the key is left in the lock, a thief can break the glass to open the window but Mr Sibley adds: "We recommend the keys are removed because as well we have heard of instances where the thief has been able to manipulate the key to open the lock." In fact insurance companies insist keys are removed as much because it provides an easy exit for burglars. A thief can break into a house through a small window but he needs a larger space to carry out the television and video.

The penalties for ignoring the insurers' conditions vary as much by the type of claim as by the company. At worst, the insurer will refuse to pay up. Alternatively it may increase the premiums. Mr Sibley said: "We don't insist but, if at the time of the loss you are not in a locked or bolted position, we double the normal excess you have to pay." The usual compulsory excess with the Pru could be the first £100 or £200 of a claim in very high-risk areas but for the majority of people it is £50.

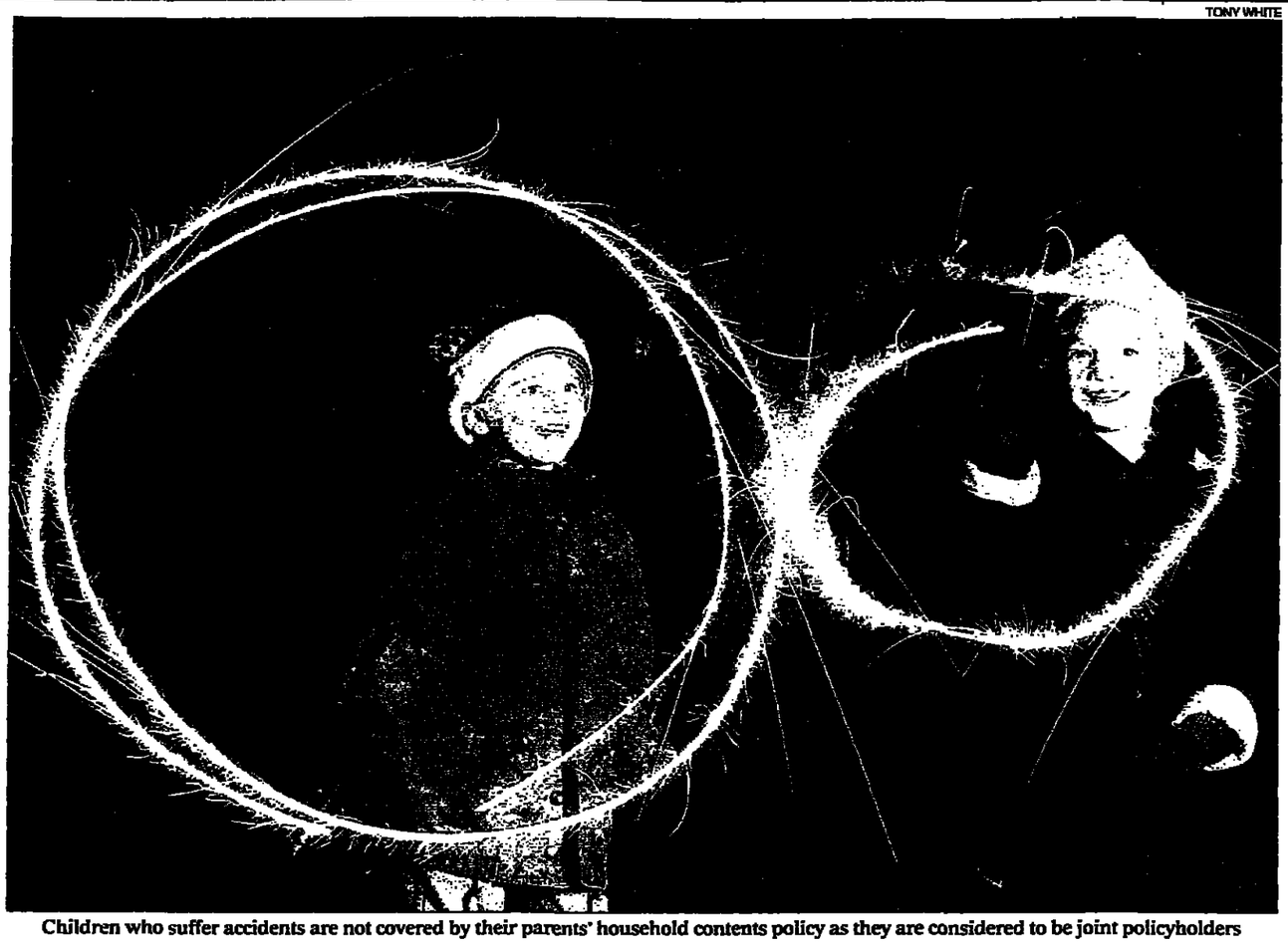
Anybody who has a discount for high security locks or burglar alarms has an additional worry. The insurance policy is in force only when the locks and alarms are activated and the company will quite likely refuse a claim if a burglar entered through an unprotected door. If the thief entered another way the discount may be withdrawn.

This gives householders the choice between being able to get out of the house fast in an emergency and being able to claim on their insurance policy if they are burgled.

In August, Norwich Union changed its stance and now allows theft claims even if the keys have been left in the locks at night. NU said: "For people in inner city areas we used to insist all keys were removed from locks but we spoke to the fire safety authorities and decided it made good sense not to insist. If you are woken at night you are bleary eyed anyway and it is not sensible to have to hunt for the key."

Norwich Union and Sun Alliance insist on minimum levels of security for policyholders in highest-risk areas, in which case keys must be removed in the day but may be replaced at night which is not too onerous for doors but tedious for window locks. Some companies allow a bedroom window to be left open at night for ventilation.

Lloyds Bank this week produced a guide to home protection and launched a 24-hour helpline for customers in high risk areas giving advice on locks and bolts and information about local locksmiths.



TONY WHITE

Children who suffer accidents are not covered by their parents' household contents policy as they are considered to be joint policyholders

Take cover into account for home fireworks

TODDLERS whirling sparklers around can turn a family bonfire night into a tragedy. The Department of Trade and Industry says sparklers were responsible for more injuries last year than any other firework. Some children as young as one or two suffered serious burns (Liz Dolan writes).

The DTI has launched a nationwide safety campaign this year following news of a surprise increase in firework accidents last November. After falling steadily from 2,500 in the early 1970s, accidents requiring hospital treatment soared in 1992 by 30 per cent to 942.

Children cannot claim under the liability section of their parents' household contents policy as all occupants are considered to be joint policyholders, explains the Association of British Insurers. Neighbours' children may be able to claim, but only if negligence by the householder can be proved.

Sheds and fences are normally covered by buildings policies and shed contents by household insurance. Negligence would again have to be proved by a neighbour trying to claim for a damaged outbuilding or fence.

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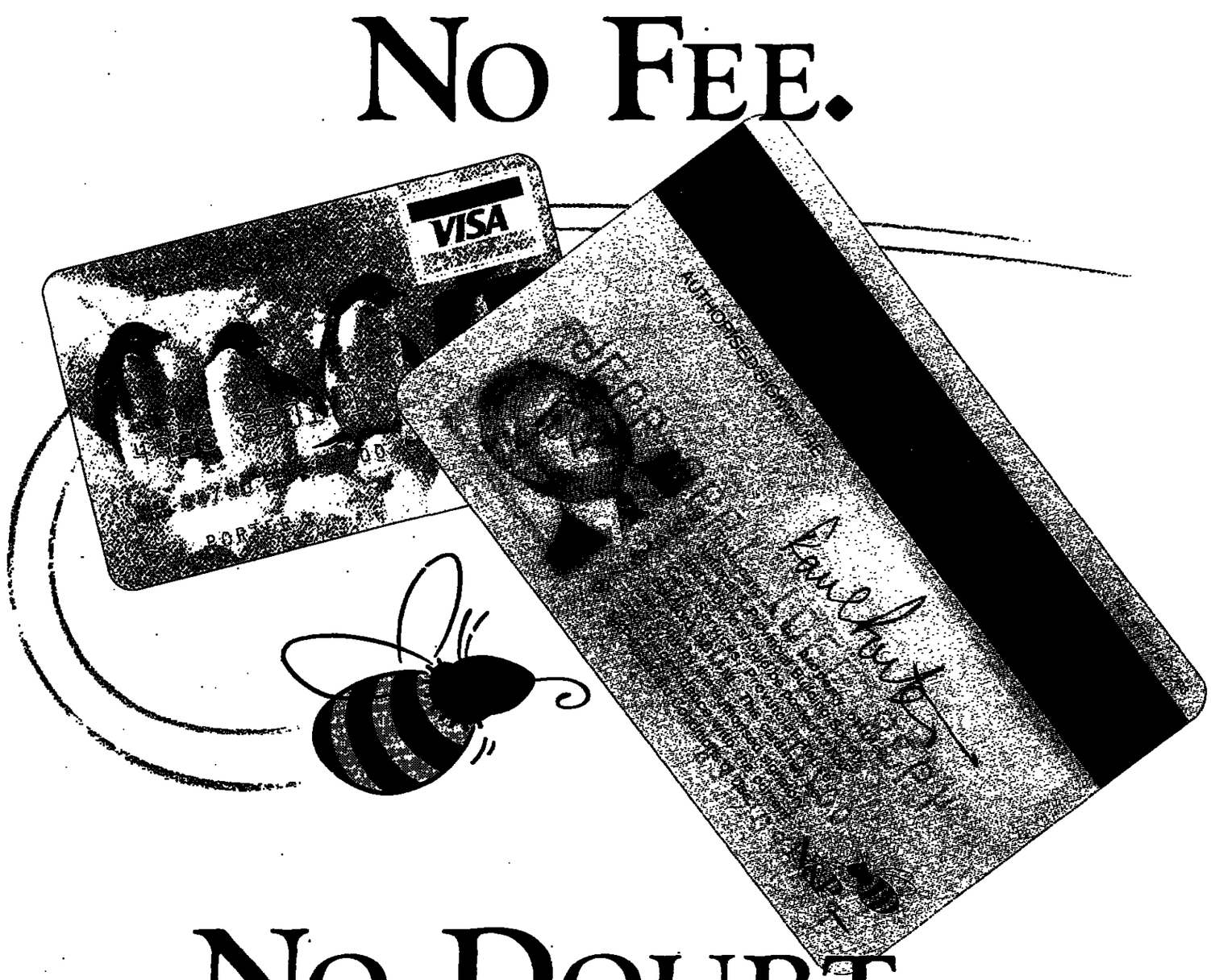
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Bank gunning for deposit cowboys

The Bank of England is cracking down on illegal deposit-takers and has called on the public to blow the whistle on suspicious characters, reports **Margaret Dibben**

Wormwood Scrubs, a barracks in Northern Ireland, a brothel in Toxteth and the back seat of a two-door Ford Fiesta might not appear to have *much in common, but all are* locations where Bank of England enforcement agents have interviewed crooks for illegally taking deposits.

Members of the Bank's hit squad are no strangers to dawn raids and sometimes *they take a police escort on* their stings because their targets have such a history of violence.

The Bank of England has become so concerned at the growth in fraudulent firms that illegally take deposits from unsuspecting savers that it has issued a leaflet telling the public how to avoid falling into the clutches of crooks. It is positively encouraging people to inform on any suspicious characters (see phone number below).

Currently the Bank is investigating 40 cases involving some £50 million. There are two broad offences: taking deposits without authorisation and inducing someone to make a deposit with fraudulent or dishonest promises, the more serious offence. In the past couple of years they have made three successful prosecutions with the guilty parties ending up in prison. Two more cases will reach the courts in the next few months.

A Bank official described the misery that has encouraged them to go public: "Some elderly people have been forced to return to work after losing their savings; others have lost the money they had put aside for a nursing home. In one case an 81-year-old widow lost money to a crook who drove 250 miles to persuade her to deposit £2,000 in what he said were charitable purposes which also provided a good return." Rarely do victims get any money back. He added: "Victims often find it hard to accept that they have lost money because the person they dealt with was someone they trusted, perhaps a minister in the local church, their accountant or financial adviser." The purpose of the leaflet is to alert potential savers to the dangers of dealing with anybody who does not have Bank of England authorisation. The Bank official (they remain anonymous for fear of reprisals) says: "The leaflet explains how the public can check whether institutions and people are authorised to accept deposits. The main message is that the public should be very wary indeed about placing money with people who are not authorised to accept it."

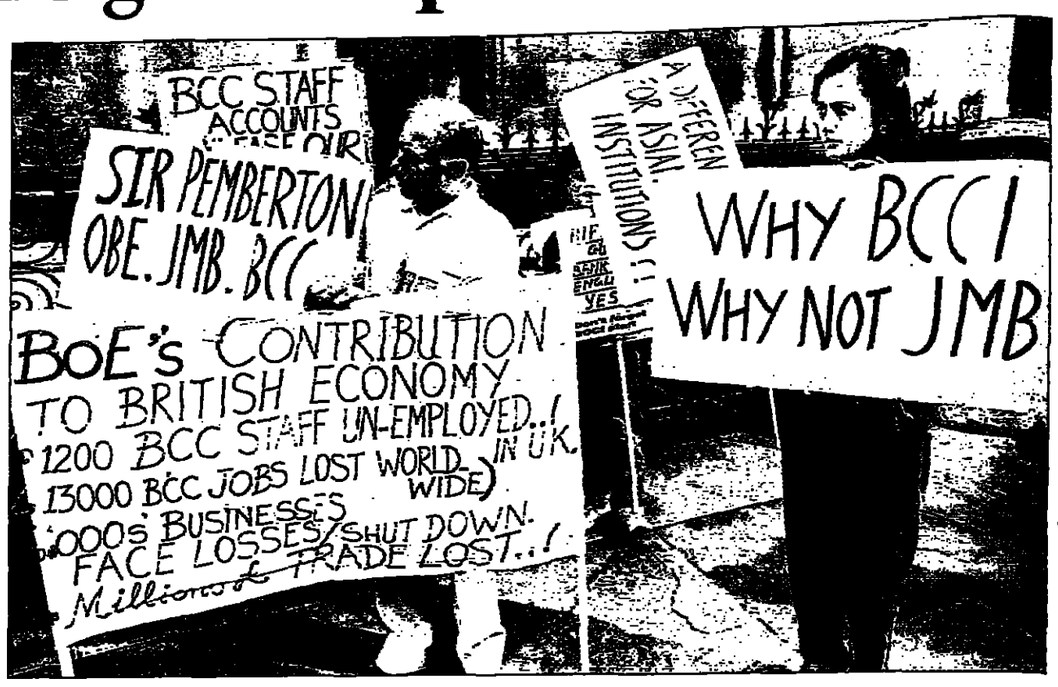
Elderly people have had to return to work after losing savings

The warning signs, says the Bank, are unusually high interest rates, unbelievably good deals, someone calling themselves a bank but without a high street branch and anything that sounds complicated. If something looks doubtful, the Bank will gladly confirm whether the outfit is properly authorised, but it stresses that being on the Bank's list does not mean that it is guaranteed by the Bank or government.

If the bank is authorised and it crashes, then compensation may be payable from the Deposit Protection Fund. But if money is handed to an unauthorised deposit-taker there is no protection from any compensation scheme and all the money will almost certainly be lost.

An official added: "The Bank has limited powers to seek repayment where deposits have been taken illegally but experience shows that all too frequently there are insufficient assets for repayment to be of much comfort."

☐ *Money in the Bank — a Guide for Depositors* is available free through post offices, Citizens Advice Bureaux and public libraries, and from the Public Liaison Group at the Bank of England, 071-601 4878.



Depositors, such as those pictured above, who lost money in the collapse of the Bank of Credit and Commerce International (BCCI) — which had been licensed by the Bank of England — saw any chance of early compensation disappear this week. The Luxembourg Court ruled that a deal proposed by the main shareholder, Abu Dhabi, was not fair to everyone. Creditors might now have to wait ten years for any money although campaigners are putting pressure on the government to bail out UK depositors.

Many of those who had sterling deposits in UK branches of BCCI have already received compensation under the Depositors' Protection Scheme. The Bank of England sent out 42,000 claim forms but received back only 19,000. Of these, 17,000 have been settled at a cost of £74 million.

The most anybody can receive under the scheme is 75 per cent of the deposit with a ceiling of £15,000. This does not stop depositors pursuing BCCI for as much as they can get back through the liquidators, but from what they eventually get back from BCCI they must repay the amount they have received from the Bank of England.

'I know that I was a fool. I thought I was the only one'

Churchgoers were left without recourse when the minister stole their savings

Members of a Methodist congregation in Lancashire were left bewildered and broke when it was discovered their minister had been illegally taking their money for years. None of the worshippers has had a penny of compensation from the Bank of England protection scheme because the minister had been taking deposits without authorisation so the scheme does not apply (Margaret Dibben writes).

In court, the Rev Clifford Chesworth, 76, admitted taking deposits, probably more than £2 million although the Bank of England could uncover only £1.2 million, all of which was lost. He took mainly *from elderly worshippers* and friends. Some gave willingly because he offered interest rates as high as 100 per cent for three months. He was given 12 months' imprisonment in March and has now been released.


Pettit: lost £25,000 in total

George Pettit of Preston has known Mr Chesworth for 30 years. He said: "I put my faith in him and trusted him although I refused a lot of times to give him any money because I kept it in the building society. In 1990, he actually got *me when I was on holiday* saying he was desperate for money and I sent him £2,000. That was my first mistake because from then on I was badgered until I parted with my whole £25,000 lump sum.

"I wasn't tempted by the high interest because I told him I didn't want as much as that. At times I became desperate and had cheques from him I could wallpaper the bedroom with. The Midland Bank told me not to put any more cheques in. At one point he gave me a cheque for £30,000, my money back and interest. I put it in the bank three times but it failed. Another cheque for £40,000 also failed.

"I know I was a fool. I thought I was the only one, but I started looking round the church and noticed some people looking miserable and found a lot of widows, spinsters and retired people had done the same thing as me. I *know of 18 in my church. One* lady gave him £140,000."

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هكذا من الأصل

Don't sell in May and go away — study the form

Liz Dolan talks to the author of a novel guide to the best and worst times to buy and sell shares



Old-time stockjobbers looking for a lead — seasonal trends could help the rest of us

Investors should control any urge to put any more money into the stock market until December 15. They should then seriously consider selling in the first half of next year, probably at the end of January but possibly the end of April. But they should only do this if share prices close higher on December 31 than they did at the end of June.

This rather complex procedure is one likely to be adopted over the next few months by users of a new stock market investment guide, published in the form of an investors' diary. David Schwarz, a former market researcher, has used historical data to produce an investment system that just might prove more reliable than sticking a pin in a list of FT-SE stocks, reading the tea leaves — or following the advice of a broker.

The guide tells investors what is most likely to happen in any given week of the year. This information is a distillation of every weekly change in the FT-30 index since 1935, and in the FT-500 since 1962. "I just took all the figures, fed them into my computer and tried to spot patterns," Mr Schwarz says. "Stock market folklore tells us there are patterns but, to my knowledge, no-one has tried to define them before."

According to his analysis, April is the most consistently profitable month, typically rising at a rate equivalent to an 89-point rise in the FT-SE 100 at current levels. June is the worst, falling an average 0.76 per cent, or 23 points on the FT-SE 100. November is capricious and can go either way. Early December tends to do badly, but late December is a peach. So is January. February is bad news.

If, as seems likely, shares at the end of this year finish at a higher level than at the end of June, the market is virtually certain to be lower by the end of the first six months of 1994, Mr Schwarz predicts. This is because the indices will have finished higher for the sixth half-year in a row, only the third time since 1935 that the market has managed six consecutive half-yearly rises. The others were in the 1950s and 1980s. A seventh consecutive rise is, in historical terms, impossible.

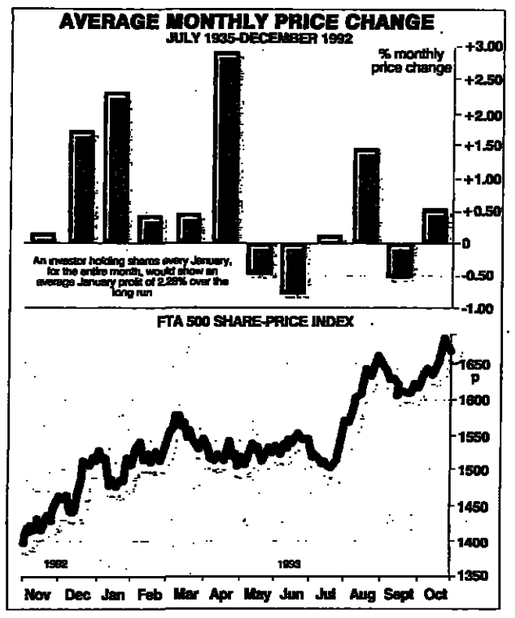
The usefulness of old stock market maxims is mixed, Mr Schwarz has discovered. The saying *As January goes, so goes the year*, turns out to be remarkably accurate, as the market's performance in January often provides a useful pointer to the rest of the year. But *Sell in May and go away — and don't come back 'til Leger Day* is not so reliable. The first week of May is normally a good one for investors, so it is worth waiting until the second week before selling. From then until the end of July, the stock market tends to mark time, just as the old rhyme predicts. However, traditionalists who then decide to lie low until the St Leger in mid-September would be missing out on August, which, according to Mr Schwarz, is historically the fourth best performing month.

September is normally a time of quiet progress, punctuated by the odd earth-shattering upheaval. The effects of these one-off events can be either catastrophic (such as the second world war), or beneficial (the collapse of the ERM), but will either way make nonsense of average performance figures.

This does not mean September should be avoided by investors. For some reason, all the really big September falls, and most of the smaller ones, happened when share prices in the preceding January fell by 2 per cent or more. This is known as the January Effect and has no basis in logic, although it happens with remarkable consistency. Mr Schwarz is bemused.

He concedes that the major flaw in his system is that most private shareholders would lose most, or all, of their profits in dealing costs if they dodged in and out of the market all the time. "But it's still worth knowing the best times to buy and sell," he says.

The 1994 Investor's Diary costs £24.95 from Burleigh Publishing Company (0453 883973).



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Bargains for first-time buyers

An affordability index has brought good news for those in the market for mortgages, **Jill Insley** discovers

First-time buyers now need to spend less on their mortgage than at any time in the last decade, according to a new housing index.

The TSB Affordability Index shows that typical first-time buyers spend 26 per cent of their monthly take-home pay on their mortgage. When house prices peaked in 1990, the first-time buyer would have to use 67 per cent of their take-home pay to pay the mortgage. Even one year ago, when house prices had plummeted in the South East and East Anglia, the average first-time buyer mortgage would cost 38 per cent.

John Stewart, a property market consultant and editor of the index for the TSB, says the increased affordability of typical first-time buyer property is "brilliant" news for home owners, any businesses connected to the housing market and the government. He said: "First-time buyers are the lifeblood of the market. About 40 per cent of transactions involve first-time buyers and they mean chains can be built. From their point of view, affordability is critical."

> First-time buyers are the life blood of the market — about 40 per cent of transactions

However, the affordability figure of 26 per cent assumes mortgage interest tax relief (Miras) at the lower tax rate on the first £30,000 of the mortgage. This is currently worth £50 per month for any mortgage of £30,000 or more. From April 1994, interest tax relief will only be available on the first £20,000, while National Insurance contributions increase from 9 per cent to 10 per cent of income, reducing affordability to 28 per cent.

If the Chancellor abolishes mortgage tax relief altogether in the Budget, affordability would drop to 32 per cent. The quarterly index takes into consideration the average age and income of the house buyer, house price, mortgage rate, income tax and National Insurance contributions, and size of mortgage. Whereas simpler house price-to-earnings ratios suggest an improvement in home affordability of just one third since 1989, the TSB index shows an improvement of about two thirds. The survey shows that the gulf in home affordability between the north and south has narrowed considerably since 1990. Then a single adult with a home in the north might spend 39 per cent of his or her take home pay on the mortgage, while a southerner might spend 87 per cent — a gap of 48 per cent. Today, that gap has narrowed to just 7 per cent, with the northerner spending 23 per cent of take home pay and the southerner spending 30 per cent.

Affordability is now 31 per cent in Greater London, 30 per cent in the South East, 27 per cent in the South West and Scotland, 25 per cent in Wales and West Midlands, 24 per cent in East Anglia and the North West, and 23 per cent in the East Midlands, Humberside, Yorkshire and North East. While a single man might have expected to spend 61 per cent of his wage packet on the mortgage in 1990, and a single woman would have spent an average of 82 per cent, the man would now spend 24 per cent and a woman 31 per cent.

Mr Stewart said: "If affordability can be kept at current levels for a period, it will be the best fillip for the market for a good ten years."

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Plessey pensioners go to war

Withdrawal of free private health cover for life, promised as part of an early retirement package, has led to concerted action. **Liz Dolan** reports

The grey panthers are toughening up their act. Where once they might simply have growled over their Horlicks about perceived unfair, or even wrongful, decisions by company pension trustees, pensioners are now manning the barricades in increasing numbers.

A group of retired managers from Plessey (UK) is one of the latest examples of this growing trend. They are planning to take GEC and Siemens, Plessey's new owners, to court over their decision to withdraw the pensioners' rights to free private health insurance for life, originally promised to them on retirement.

Kenneth Lilley, one of 450 pensioners involved in the action, says: "Fairly rapidly after the takeover in 1989, the new owners issued an edict saying the benefit would be progressively withdrawn. I wrote to 50 people and we asked GEC for a meeting. We also asked for a list of the other people affected. As far as I know, there are about 2,000."

GEC refused both requests. Advertisements in the national press flushed out 700 pensioners and, bowing to the weight of numbers, both GEC and Siemens then agreed to meet their representatives. Nothing changed.

"Basically, they said they couldn't afford an open-ended commitment," Mr Lilley says. "But it isn't open-ended. Those involved will eventually die."

Legal action became the only option. Mr Lilley agrees that time is not on their side. The British legal system is not known for its speedy resolution of cases and "we are, by definition, a wasting asset," he says. The litigants range in age from 65 to nearly 90. Many are widows of the original employers.

GEC has already asked for an extension of time to prepare its defence.

The Lucas pensioners, fighting the lawful decision by the company to take millions of pounds from the pension fund

'We want a fast-track case in view of the ages of the people'

to pay shareholders' dividends, have already been waiting a year for their first proper court hearing.

The case involving the pensioners of Philips, where they are opposing changes to their private health cover, has been dragging on for three years, with no resolution yet in sight.

Pensioners are likely to be more wary than most when it comes to committing themselves to potentially enormous bills in the future, and Mr Lilley's gang of 700 dwindled to 450 the moment the question of legal costs arose. Each of those involved in the legal action has contributed £140 to the fighting fund. This will be topped up by further contributions where needed.

"A lot of people are nervous about the other side's costs if we lose the case," Mr Lilley admits. "But, we have done our sums. Everyone is well aware of the situation. We are going to fight them all the way."

Mark Hatfield, the Plessey pensioners' solicitor, says: "We are asking for a fast-track case in view of the ages of the people involved. We are trying to get a hearing as close as possible to the end of March when the benefits run out, but it is more likely to be during the summer."

He says the pensioners were told that they would have private health insurance for life, provided they retired and took their pensions immediately. "We say that right crystallised at the moment of going into retirement. A lot of these people tell me that the free medical cover played an important part in their decision to take early retirement."

Since Mr Hatfield took the Plessey case, he has already been contacted by two other groups of pensioners with similar problems.

David Newlands, finance director of GEC, would say only that both Siemens and GEC believed that they have behaved correctly. The matter was now largely *sub judice*, he said.



Pensioner Ken Lilley is going to "fight all the way" and is hoping for a speedy decision

Drive for fair play on small firms' pensions

An employer as sole trustee of workers' funds is a risk. **Sara McConnell** reports

Insurers managing pension contributions for small companies where the employer is also the sole trustee should have the power to warn scheme members if contributions are not paid over, the Occupational Pensions Advisory Service (Opas) said this week.

There is still evidence that pension contributions made by employees of small businesses are not always paid into the scheme, Opas says in its annual report. "This invariably occurs when an employer is in financial difficulties and is desperately searching for any means possible to increase cash flow," Opas says. "We have also seen a number of cases where cheques issued by insurers in respect of scheme benefits have found their way into overdrawn company bank accounts and are effectively 'lost' when the company then goes into liquidation."

Insured schemes, many run by small employers, accounted for nearly half the 2,496 major enquiries received by Opas last year. The schemes are run by insurance companies, which receive and invest contributions from employers and employees. Insurers will know if contributions have not been paid, but say that they can only deal with scheme members through the trustee. If the sole trustee is the employer diverting the contributions, there is no safeguard for employees. Professor Roy Goode proposed in his review of pension law that trustees should warn employees if employers had not paid over contributions for three months, but this has no effect if the employer is the sole trustee. Don Hall, Opas's chief executive, said: "Professor Goode has rather ducked the issue of small schemes."

Invariably, members do not learn that their contributions have not been paid over until the company folds, which brings more problems. Mr Hall said: "The problem when the company is wound up is that there are no trustees who can act because of the system of employers acting as sole trustee. Members get impatient, but the insurance company says it can only deal with the trustee. The only option is, sometimes, for members to go to court."

Opas wants insurers allowed to act as "second trustees" in schemes where there is only one trustee.

Under the Employment Protection (Consolidation) Act 1987, trustees of schemes where the employer has not paid contributions can generally claim up to one year's employer and employee contributions from the National Insurance fund.

Problems with terminating small insured schemes accounted for 78 per cent of queries to Opas about such plans. "It is a cause for concern that in many cases where the company was the sole trustee, considerable difficulty is being experienced in progressing scheme windups, with scheme members waiting far too long for authoritative information," Opas said.

Even when the employer is not the sole trustee, Opas finds problems, including a case in which a company went into liquidation without having formally documented the setting up of its scheme for its employees.

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☐ The Britannia has a one-year fixed-rate mortgage pegged at 4.8 per cent for first-time buyers borrowing 90 per cent or less of the property's value. Those borrowing 95 per cent get a 4.95 per cent fix instead. The arrangement fee for the mortgage is £150, or £50 for completions before December 31. Britannia is also offering a two-year fix with rates ranging between 6.75 per cent and 5.99 per cent, depending on the percentage borrowed.

☐ A new private medical insurance package from the Hale Clinic provides cover for alternative, as well as conventional, medical treatments. As well as traditional private medical insurance cover, it offers up to four health checks a year followed, if necessary, by complementary, or conventional, treatments. The clinic says that the emphasis is on prevention. Details can be obtained on: 071 631 0156/637 3377.

☐ People making new or additional investments in Skipton Building Society's portfolio bond before December 31 get an extra 1 per cent allocation of units. Those buying units in any of Henderson Unit Trusts Management's four European funds during November get a 1 per cent discount.

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Guaranteed Equity Bond II

NORTHERN ROCK

Northern Rock Building Society. Principal Office: Northern Rock House, Gosforth, Newcastle upon Tyne NE3 4PL.

Member of the Building Societies Association and the Building Societies Investor Protection Scheme. Assets exceed £6 billion. GPSO

The Term of the Account is fixed from the date of the investment to 6th December 1998. For full details refer to the Terms and Conditions leaflet. Investments received on or before 27th November 1993 will earn interest at a rate equivalent to 7% gross per annum from the date your cheque clears (minimum period of 4 full bank working days), up to and including 5th December 1993. When a withdrawal is made, or at the end of the Term, interest is payable net of basic rate income tax, currently 25% (which may be reclaimed by non-taxpayers) or, subject to the required registrations, gross. The FT-SE 100 Index is a joint service and trade mark of the Financial Times Limited and the London Stock Exchange. This product is not endorsed by the Financial Times Limited or the London Stock Exchange. No withdrawals are permitted prior to maturity, except in the event of the death of the account holder or on the set early redemption dates referred to in the Terms and Conditions. Full written Terms and Conditions will be sent with your application form. The account is for personal use only and is open to permanent UK residents only. Opening an account is subject to status.

Please post first class to L. Connah, Direct Business, Northern Rock House, Gosforth, Newcastle upon Tyne NE3 4PL.

I/We enclose cheque for £ _____ (minimum £1,000, maximum £500,000) to be invested in Guaranteed Equity Bond II, payable to the Account holder(s) name(s) and crossed 'A/c Payee Only'

☐ Please confirm receipt of my cheque and send my Guaranteed Equity Bond II application form together with full Terms and Conditions.

☐ I/We require an 'Interest with No Tax Deducted' application form.

Signature _____ Date of Birth _____

Signature _____ Date of Birth _____

Full name(s) _____

Address _____

Postcode _____ Date _____

Day Phone _____

Eve phone _____

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Address: _____

_____ Post Code: _____

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Complete and return to: Reliance Mutual Insurance Society Limited FREEPOST, Tunbridge Wells, Kent. TN4 8BR

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LETTERS

Rhodesian pensioners

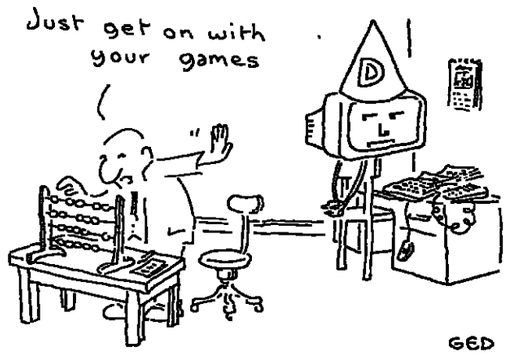
From Mr F. N. Pusinelli

Sir, This association fights on behalf of the more than 25,000 pensioners (including widows) who served in British dependencies overseas in the former Colonial Service (or any similar). We have constantly pressed the British government to give fair treatment to those public service pensioners who served the Crown in Rhodesia, as urged by Mr P.S. Jones (Letters, October 16).

The strong moral arguments in the case have not been satisfactorily answered by the government, who have taken refuge in the excuse that they cannot distinguish such Rhodesian pensioners from others who served in the colonies on comparable terms regarded as locally based, rather than of expatriate type. This ignores the very special features of the Rhodesian situation.

The saving in the pensions bill is offset in the case of such pensioners living in Britain (and there are many living overseas) by their increasingly necessary claims on Social Security benefits. We believe that the Government should accept financial, as well as moral, responsibility for these pensioners before it is too late for them.

Yours faithfully,
F N PUSINELLI,
Chairman
Overseas Service
Pensioners Association,
138 High Street,
Tonbridge,
Kent.



Shedding light on computers

From Mr Ron Footer

Sir, Mr Bird (Letters, October 16) should know that computers do not make numerical errors.

Obviously, the cost of one lamp, with VAT, is, say, £0.553, rounded to 55p and, therefore, the cost of three lamps is £1.659, rounded to £1.66.

Yours faithfully,
RON FOOTER,
24 Bowford Avenue,
Bexleyheath, Kent.

Methods of payment for solicitors

From Mr Edmund Heward

Sir, Mr Thomas Mathew's letter (Weekend Money Letters, October 23) raises the larger question about the present method of solicitors charging by the time spent. That very experienced solicitor, Mr Edwin Field, the Victorian law reformer, thought that solicitors should be paid either an agreed sum, or on a commission basis.

For conveyancing, the Solicitors Renumeration Order, 1880, fixed a scale of charges which were in fact a commission based on the size of the transaction.

This has now been discarded. For probate, a commission based on the size of the estate is perfectly practicable. Of course, there would be cases where a commission was not appropriate.

There are many advantages in such a method of payment. 1. The client would at the outset be able to calculate the cost of employing the solicitor. 2. The cost would be proportionate to the amount involved. 3. The solicitor would be prevented from making extortionate charges. 4. The solicitor would be saved the cost of keeping records to substantiate the time spent. 5. Payment by commission would encourage despatch. The present system is positive encouragement to solicitors to spend as long as possible on the job.

Yours faithfully,
EDMUND HEWARD,
36a Dartmouth Row,
Greenwich, SE10.

From Peter J. R. Bradley

Sir, The comments of Mr Mathew concerning wills reminded me of my father's estate (such as it was). The Midland Bank executor, after a few minutes' conversation, walked away saying he was unable to deal with the matter and we must settle the estate. It subsequently transpired that the estate value would be less than their charges. I do hope that it listens more now than it did 18 years ago.

Yours faithfully,
P. J. R. BRADLEY,
14 Well Street, Buckingham.

INTEREST RATES ROUNDUP

	Nominal rate	Compounded at tax rates 25%	40%	Min/max investment £	Notice	Contact
BANKS						
Ordinary Dep A/c:						
Typical	0.38	0.38	0.30	1,000	7 day	——
Fixed Term Deposits:						
Barclays	3.70	3.70	2.96	25,000-50,000	1 mth	071-626 1567
"	3.52	3.52	2.82	5,000-50,000	3 mth	071-626 1567
Lloyds	3.14	3.14	2.51	10,000-no max	1 mth	Local Brnch
"	3.09	3.09	2.47	10,000-no max	6 mth	Local Brnch
Midland	3.70	3.70	2.96	10,000-100,000	1 mth	0742 528655
" "	3.70	3.70	2.96	10,000-100,000	3 mth	0742 528655
NatWest	3.47	3.47	2.78	25,000-50,000	1 mth	071-726 1000
" "	3.19	3.19	2.55	25,000-50,000	3 mth	071-726 1000
HIGH INTEREST CHEQUE ACCOUNTS						
Bank of Scotland MMC	3.26	3.31	2.65	2,500‡	none	031-442 7777
Barclays Prime a/c	1.88	1.88	1.50	2,500‡	none	0604 252891
Co-operative Ultra	0.38	0.38	0.30	500‡	none	071 826 6543
Citibank	3.75	3.82	3.06	2,000‡	none	0800 555884
Lloyds HICA	0.38	0.38	0.30	10,000	none	0272 433272
Midland HICA	1.50	1.50	1.20	2,000‡	none	0742 528655
NatWest Special Reserve	1.13	1.13	0.90	500‡	none	0800 200 400
Royal Bank of Scot Prem A/c	1.50	1.51	1.21	2,000‡	none	031-556 8555
TSB Bank Intst Chque Acct	1.88	1.88	1.50	2,000‡	none	071-600 6000
BUILDING SOCIETIES						
Ordinary Share A/c	0.75	0.75	0.60	50+	none	——
Best buy — largest socs:						
Bristol & West	5.33	5.33	4.26	50,000 min	Postal	——
Birmingham Mid	5.51	5.51	4.41	100,000 min	Postal	——
Bristol & West	4.73	4.73	3.78	50,000 min	30 day	——
Woolwich	5.81	5.81	4.65	50,000 min	90 day	——
Portman	4.50	4.50	3.60	500 min	1 year	——
Best buy — all socs:						
North of England	5.33	5.33	4.26	25,000 min	Postal	——
North of England	5.63	5.63	4.50	25,000 min	30 day	——
St Pancras	5.59	5.59	4.47	25,000 min	60 day	——
National Count	5.85	5.85	4.68	50,000 min	90 day	——
Newcastle	5.44	5.44	4.35	5,000 min	1 year	——

Compiled by Chase de Vere Moneyline - call 071 404 5788 for further details

NATIONAL SAVINGS						
Ordinary A/c†	3.75	2.81	2.25	500-10,000	8 day	041-649-4555
Investment A/c*	6.25	4.69	3.75	20-24,999	1 mth	041-649-4555
Income Bond*	7.00	5.25	4.20	2,000-24,999	3 mth	0253 766151
6th Index Linkd†‡	3.25	3.25	3.25	100-10,000	8 day	091-386-4900
40th Issue Cert*	5.75	5.75	5.75	100-10,000	8 day	091-386 4900
Yearly Plan†	5.75	5.75	5.75	20-400/mth	14 day	091-386 4900
Children's Bond	7.85	7.85	7.85	25-1,000		
Gen Ext Retn†	3.75	3.75	3.75			
Capital Bond*	7.75	5.81	4.65	100-250,000	8 days	041-649-4555
1st Option Bond*	4.75	4.75	3.80	1,000-250,000		
GUARANTEED INCOME BONDS						
ALICO	4.55	4.55	3.57	50,000 min	1 yrs	Figures from
Consolidated Lf	4.75	4.75	4.04	2,000 min	2 yrs	Chase de
Prosperity Life	5.55	5.55	4.72	15,000 min	3 yrs	Vere
General Portfolio	5.70	5.70	4.85	50,000 min	4 yrs	071 404 5788
London & Mochstr	5.90	5.90	5.01	2,000 min	5 yrs	for details

RATES		**HOLIDAY RATES**	£ buys
RPI (Sept 92-93)	+1.8%	Spanish Pesetas:	192.00
Bank Base Rate	6%	French Francs:	8.47
Personal Loan	28%	Greek Drachmas:	347.00
Credit Card	25 - 27%	Italian Lire:	2375.00

TESSA	CAR (%)	£3,000 val 1 year on	Transfer penalty	Minimum investmt	Telephone number
Hinckley & Rgby	8.05	£3,241.50	90 days loss	£25	0455 251234
Dunfermline	8.00	£3,240.00	1mths notice+loss	£3,000	0383 721621
St Pancras	8.00	£3,240.00	£25+30days notice	£10	071 7942331
Nat'nal Count.	7.90	£3,237.00	90 days loss	£3,000	0372 742211
Dudley	7.87	£3,236.10	Rvrts to Fully Pd	£10	0384 231414

† 2.5% for balances below £500, first £70 of interest tax-free, instant access for withdrawals of £100 or less. ‡ Additional holdings up to £50,000 for investors re-investing proceeds of existing matured certificates. †Tax free. *Interest taxable paid gross ‡Higher rates for larger sums. ²Guaranteed over the rate of inflation. *0.5% net bonus for amounts £20,000+

Compiled by KAREN BUCKLEY

LARGER LOANS

Lender	Interest Rate %	Loan Size	Max %	Notes
BUILDING SOCIETIES				
Birmingham Mid. 0902 710710	3.95	to £150K	95	Rate shown is discounted to 1.7.94
National Counties 0372 742211	3.99	to £100K	95	Rate shown after 4% discount to 1.6.94
Northern Rock 091 285 7191	3.99	to £150K	75	Rate shown after 4% discount to 1.4.95
BANKS				
Royal Bank of Scot 031 556 8555	3.99	negotiable	80	Rate shown after 4% discount for 6 mths
BANKS				
Bank of Ireland 0734 393393	3.75	to £150K	75	Rate shown is capped or fixed to 1.1.95

Source: Bisy's MortgageMatch. Further info: Bisy' Guides 0753 860482

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There will be a discount of 1 per cent on all investments in this fund made before 30th November 1993.

For further information, call us free on 0800 124 314 or fill in the form below and we will send you details and an application form.

To: Rothschild Asset Management Limited, Five Arrows House, St. Swithin's Lane, London EC4N 8NR. Please send me information about the Five Arrows Japanese Smaller Companies Fund.

Title _____ Initials _____ Surname _____

Address _____

_____

_____ Postcode _____

Issued by Rothschild Asset Management Limited, a member of IMRO and LAUTRO and authorised under the Financial Services Act 1986. It should be noted that the value of units and any income from them may fall as well as rise. Past performance is not an indication of future performance. Depending on the investor's currency of reference, currency fluctuations may adversely affect the value of investments and the income derived therefrom. Investing in securities of smaller companies is likely to carry a higher degree of risk than investment in securities of larger companies. ATT931030

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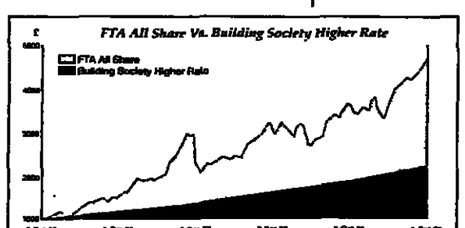
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THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

	Bid	Offer	+/-	Yld %
ABBEY UNIT TRUST MANAGERS 80 Holdenhurst Rd, Bournemouth BH8 8AL 0345 717373				
Masterrust	134.80	144.10	+0.20	1.29
International	106.30	113.00	+0.30	.44
Dividend Gth	62.67	66.67	-0.15	4.21
Global Gth Sec	64.00	68.08	+0.06	2.79
Ethical Growth	71.65	76.22	-0.20	2.39
High Inc Equity	166.70	177.30†	-0.60	4.44
Worldwide Bond	275.30	292.10	-1.80	3.59
Gilts Fixed Int	136.70	144.90†	-0.90	5.52
ABTRUST MANAGEMENT LTD 10 Queens Terrace, Aberdeen AB9 1QJ 0224 633070 Dealing: 0800 833580 30 Finsbury Circus, London EC2M 7QQ 071 374 6801				
Amer Inc Gth	45.74	48.25†	+0.17	0.65
European	98.62	104.70	+0.10	...
European Inc	93.98	99.92	+1.59	1.50
Exempt	972.00	1019.2†	-21.60	3.75
Extra Inc	51.61	56.16†	-0.28	4.69
F East Emerg Ec	107.70	116.00	+4.30	0.56
ALLIED DUNBAR UNIT TRUSTS Allied Dunbar Centre, Swindon, SN1 1EL 0793 514514 Dealing: 0793 610366				
High Inc	420.80	449.80†	-4.20	3.51
Equity Inc	236.30	252.60	-2.10	3.47
High Yield	257.60	275.30†	-2.40	3.46
Balanced	690.20	737.80	-11.50	2.32
American Inc	51.52	55.07	-0.60	2.92
Wld Asset Val	45.72	48.87	-0.25	0.55
Japan	209.10	223.10	-5.60	0.01
Secs of Am	432.10	459.70	-1.60	0.55
AXA EQUITY & LAW St George's Hse, Corporation St, Coventry CV1 1QD. 0203 553231				
UK Growth Acc	347.60	369.80†	-3.30	2.49
-do- Inc	243.30	258.90†	-2.30	2.49
Higher Inc Acc	652.20	693.90†	-4.10	3.49
-do- Inc	389.80	414.70†	-2.50	3.49
Gilt/Fxd Int Acc	189.20	199.90†	-1.10	5.85
-do- Inc	96.75	102.10†	-0.70	5.85
Nth America	268.00	285.20†	+3.40	...
Far East	350.90	373.30†	+6.00	...
Europe	264.00	280.90†	-2.30	0.80
General Inc	464.30	494.00†	-4.30	2.27
-do- Acc	515.40	548.40†	-4.70	2.27
Brit Excell	71.28	75.83	+0.13	2.46
Brit Fndmtls Inc	75.04	79.84†	-0.67	4.27
Brit Fndmtls Acc	98.88	105.20†	-0.90	4.27
BARCLAYS UNICORN LTD Gredley Hse, 1-11 Broadway, London E15 081 534 5544				
Capital	116.80	124.80	-0.70	2.66
Euro Gth Inc	134.90	143.20	+0.50	0.50
Extra Inc	117.20	125.40†	-0.20	4.17
General	268.00	286.70†	-0.30	2.64
Gilt Fxd Inc	62.10	64.19	-0.38	7.86
Income	537.90	575.30	-0.90	3.99
BARING FUND MANAGERS PO Box 156, Beckenham, Kent BR3 4XQ 081 658 9002				
American Gth	98.14	104.10	+0.40	0.10
Amer Smllr Cos	131.00	139.80†	-0.50	...
Convertibles	57.44	61.43†	+0.25	6.20
Eastern	251.20	270.80	-16.00	1.60
Equity Income	91.01	96.81†	+0.34	5.50
European Gth	274.50	291.70	-1.60	1.50
Europe	182.80	195.50	+1.20	1.50
Exempt	92.51	94.99	+0.55	3.40
German Growth	73.39	78.13	+0.10	0.70
Global Growth	122.90	131.30	+0.50	...
Japan Growth	205.60	220.60	-4.90	...
Japan Sunrise	180.00	192.40	-3.70	...
Portfolio	132.30	141.40	-0.20	3.20
-do- Acc	237.90	254.30	-0.30	3.20
UK Growth	90.87	96.67	-1.14	2.80
UK Smaller Cos	92.55	98.98†	-0.01	1.90
Select Managers	72.68	77.76	+0.21	2.00
BRITANNIA LIFE UNIT MANAGERS LTD 190 West George St, Glasgow G2 2PA 041 332 3132				
Balan Gth Acc	115.15	123.16	-0.44	1.55
-do- Inc	104.02	111.25†	-0.40	1.55
Global Bond	31.53	33.45	-0.15	5.03
High Yield Acc	61.32	65.59	-0.01	3.22
-do- Inc	43.65	46.68†	-0.01	3.22
Smlr Cos Acc	105.69	113.04	+0.73	1.03
-do- Inc	96.97	103.71†	+0.49	1.03
Amer Gth Acc	68.04	72.77	+0.41	...
-do- Inc	66.77	71.42	+0.41	...
Euro Gth Acc	122.51	131.03	-0.44	0.17
-do- Inc	120.23	128.58†	-0.42	0.17
Mngd P folio	40.91	43.76†	+0.08	1.18
Pacific Growth	123.19	131.76†	+2.42	...
Intl Spec Opps	109.92	117.56	-0.59	0.16
BROWN SHIPLEY 9/17 Perrymount Rd, Haywards Heath 0444 458144				
Financial	149.00	157.60	-0.70	2.67
Smaller Cos Acc	342.40	368.10	+5.00	...
Smaller Cos Inc	197.80	212.60†	+1.40	1.03
High Inc	78.75	84.26†	-0.41	6.22
Income	133.90	143.30†	-1.30	3.84
Mngd P folio Inc	101.80	108.40	-0.60	1.84
-do- Acc	192.90	206.50	-0.90	...
North American	114.10	121.50	-1.70	0.18
CIS UNIT MANAGERS LTD PO Box 105, Manchester M60 0AH 061 837 5060				
Environ	145.70	155.00	-0.20	1.47
UK Growth	160.60	170.90	-1.20	1.94
UK Income	134.30	142.90†	-0.10	3.91
CANNON LINCOLN FUND MANAGERS 1 Olympic Way, Wembley, Middx HA9 0NB 081 902 8876				
SE Asia	115.60	123.60	+4.00	0.82
Growth	48.18	51.53	-0.32	3.24
Income	59.83	63.99	-0.30	3.72
Far East	56.06	59.96	+0.77	...
North American	98.14	105.50	+0.20	...
Global	98.08	104.90	+0.40	0.39
European	82.91	88.68	-0.62	0.89
Japan	116.10	124.20†	-2.40	...
Intl Currency Bd	61.36	65.09†	-0.44	5.85
UK Cap Gwth	87.82	93.92†	-0.65	1.99
CAPEL-CURE MYERS UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD 35 Fountain Street, Manchester M2 2AF Enquiries: 061 236 5685 Dealing: 061 236 5362				
Capability Trusts				
American Gen	144.00	153.20†	+0.40	0.01
-do- Acc	153.00	162.80	+0.40	0.01
European	75.58	79.97	-0.53	0.69
-do- Acc	78.84	83.43	-0.54	0.69
Far East Gen	68.61	72.99	-1.54	...
-do- Acc	68.61	72.99	-1.54	...
Smaller Cos	75.16	79.96	+0.35	1.78
-do- Acc	84.86	90.28	+0.40	1.78
Growth	413.90	442.70	+0.10	2.19
-do- Acc	717.60	767.50	+0.10	2.19
Income Growth	412.10	438.50	-2.30	3.48
-do- Acc	559.90	595.70	-3.10	3.48
Master Portfolio	10533	10939†	+34.00	1.97
-do- Acc	12342	12818	+38.00	1.97
Special Sits	95.32	101.41	-0.07	2.13
-do- Acc	112.67	119.87	-0.09	2.13
Exempt Fund				
High Yield	1345.0	1387.0	-6.00	3.91
-do- Acc	1587.0	1637.0	-7.00	3.91

For Capel (James) Trusts see HSBC

	Bid	Offer	+/-	Yld %
CAZENOVE UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD 3 Copthall Avenue, London EC2R 7BH 071 606 0708				
American P folio	91.37	97.41	-1.18	0.98
European P folio	88.13	94.13†	-0.32	0.83
Japanese P folio	68.74	73.16	-1.35	...
Pacific P folio	133.41	143.46	+5.10	0.85
Cazenove P folio	80.53	86.11	-0.26	2.37
UK Income Gth	72.23	77.37†	-0.25	4.17
Utility & Bond	58.33	58.75	-0.57	7.00
CENTRAL BOARD OF FINANCE OF CHURCH OF ENGLAND 2 Fore Street, London EC2Y 5AQ 071 588 1815				
Investment Fd	640.95	653.15	...	4.56
Fixed Int	164.20	164.40	...	8.82
Deposit	5.60	...	...	...
CHARITIES OFFICIAL INVESTMENT FUND 2 Fore Street, London EC2Y 5AQ 071 588 1815				
Income	639.88	644.49	...	4.64
-do- Acc	2542.4	2570.7	...	...
Deposit	5.60	...	...	...
Fxd Intl Inc	133.50	133.83	...	8.67
-do- Acc	184.80	185.27	...	...
CITY FINANCIAL UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD 1 White Hart Yard, London Bridge, SE1 071 407 5966				
City Fin Assets	67.50	71.05†	+0.60	1.81
Beckman Intl	91.92	97.13	-1.27	1.72
Friars Hse Inc	197.37	207.76	-4.35	4.91
Friars Hse Cap	272.42	288.28	-1.93	2.31
COMMERCIAL UNION TRUST MANAGERS Exchange Court, 3 Bedford Park, Croydon CR9 2AQ. Enquiries: 081 681 2222 Dealing: 081 686 9828				
OTHER CU TRUSTS (NON PPT FUNDS)				
Deposit Fund	91.72	91.72	+0.07	5.18
Deposit Fund Acc	93.72	93.72	+0.08	5.18
Quilter Fund	133.27	141.78	-1.51	2.10
Quilter Fund Acc	149.53	159.07	-1.70	2.10
CREDIT SUISSE INVESTMENT FUNDS (UK) LTD 5 Rayleigh Rd, Hutton, Brentwood, Essex CM13 1AA. 071 247 4542 Dealing: 0277 690370				
Fellowship Tst	67.67	71.99	-0.07	1.77
-do- Acc	76.78	81.69	+0.08	1.77
Income Fund S	231.20	246.00	...	3.64
-do- Acc	547.40	582.40	...	3.64
Inv Portfolio	74.41	79.17	+0.27	1.95
-do- Acc	84.80	90.22	+0.31	1.95
Smaller Cos	139.00	147.90	-0.30	1.19
-do- Acc	168.20	179.00	-0.40	1.19
High Inc P folio	66.91	71.18	+0.18	3.92
EAGLE STAR UNIT MANAGERS Bath Road, Cheltenham GL53 7LQ 0242 577 555				
Oriental Op Acc	114.50	121.80†	+6.20	.65
Japanese Acc	65.66	69.85†	-1.07	...
UK Balncd Inc	136.60	145.30	-0.80	2.37
-do- Acc	161.10	171.40	-1.00	2.37
UK Growth Acc	220.60	234.70	-1.40	1.91
UK High Inc	150.90	160.50	-0.60	5.52
-do- Acc	182.60	194.30	-0.70	5.52
N America Acc	122.10	129.90	+0.90	.21
European Acc	182.50	194.20	+0.30	.50
UK Pref F/I Inc	63.27	67.07	-0.67	6.57
-do- Acc	104.10	110.40	-1.10	6.57
Intl Sp Sits Acc	54.22	57.68†	+0.70	.21
Environmntl Opp	78.33	83.33	-0.38	1.47
EDINBURGH UNIT TRUST MANAGERS Donaldson House, 97 Haymarket Terrace, Edinburgh EH12 5HD. 031 313 1000				
American	122.10	129.70	+1.50	0.39
UK Smlr Cos	222.70	236.60	+2.80	1.06
Eurofund	43.24	45.77	-0.22	0.87
Mngd Exempt	184.10	191.90	+2.40	2.73
Growth Inc	232.60	247.10	-1.40	3.04
High Dist	161.50	171.60	-0.10	4.37
International Inc	362.40	385.10	-2.20	0.84
-do- Acc	362.40	385.10	-2.20	0.84
Intl Income	93.61	99.93†	+1.19	2.60
Pacific	75.39	80.10	+2.64	0.37
Smllr Jap Cos	76.68	81.47	-1.55	...
Tokyo	217.00	230.60	-4.70	...
Japan Exempt	123.50	126.90	-1.50	0.39
Sm Jap Exempt	613.10	630.00	-5.70	...
Equity Income	134.40	142.80†	-0.30	3.50
Formerly Target				
Euro Spec Sits	159.00	168.40	-3.60	0.45
Financial	48.26	51.28†	+0.14	2.34
Japan General	170.20	180.80	-3.30	...
Preference	24.48	26.01†	+0.04	7.00
ENDURANCE FUND MANAGEMENT 41 Harrington Gardens, London SW7 4JU 071 373 7261				
Endurance	192.00	204.30†	-2.20	0.95
EQUITABLE UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD Walton St, Aylesbury, Bucks, HP21 7QW 0296 431480				
Pelican	114.45	120.47†	-0.69	3.18
High Income	135.38	142.51	-0.44	4.37
Tst of Inv Tsts	173.67	182.81	+0.14	2.08
Special Sits	88.26	92.90	-0.99	2.01
North American	114.69	120.73	-0.15	0.97
Far Eastern	297.93	313.61	+4.68	1.26
Intl Growth	109.13	114.87	-0.13	1.22
European	73.71	77.59	-0.80	1.80
Smaller Cos	73.89	77.78	-0.58	1.90
FAMILY INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT LTD 16 West Street, Brighton, BN1 2RE 0273 220 707				
United Charities	242.60	258.00†	+7.70	3.66
FIDELITY INVESTMENT SERVICES LTD Oakhill House, 130 Tonbridge Rd, Tonbridge TN11 9DZ. 0800 414181				
Cash Unit Tst	100.00	100.00	..	5.10
European Tst	154.40	164.20†	-1.80	...
High Income	28.05	29.52†	-0.11	5.00
FOREIGN & COLONIAL 5th Floor, Exchange Hse, Primrose St, London EC2A 2NY. 071 628 8000				
European	107.60	113.80	-0.10	0.47
Far Eastern	159.40	170.80†	+7.10	...
High Income	23.69	25.22	-0.18	10.00
Oseas Income	100.70	107.80	+0.70	2.90
UK Growth	105.30	112.60	-0.50	1.12
UK Income	110.00	117.50	-1.60	5.11
US Smaller Cos	299.40	320.20†	+0.90	...
FRAMLINGTON UNIT MANAGEMENT 155 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 3FT 071 374 4100				
Amer Gth	55.23	58.77	+0.69	...
-do- Acc	55.23	58.77	+0.69	...
Am Smllr Co	483.10	516.60	+2.70	...
-do- Acc	493.50	527.70	+2.70	...
Capital	303.90	323.20†	+1.60	1.61
-do- Acc	427.70	454.90†	+2.20	1.61
Contl Smllr Cos	52.86	56.60	+0.21	0.84
-do- Acc	55.25	59.17	+0.22	0.84
Convertible	130.30	138.50	+0.90	4.98
-do- Acc	247.30	263.00	+1.70	4.98
Emg Mark	67.76	72.39	+1.91	...
-do- Acc	67.76	72.39	+1.91	...
European	112.00	119.40	+1.20	0.57
-do- Acc	116.70	124.50	+1.30	0.57

	Bid	Offer	+/-	Yld %
Extra Income	326.50	347.30	+2.70	3.50
-do- Acc	467.50	497.30	+3.80	3.50
Financial	125.50	134.00	+1.40	0.43
-do- Acc	131.30	140.20	+1.40	0.43
Health Fund Inc	133.80	142.90	+0.30	...
-do- Acc	133.80	142.90	+0.30	...
Income Tst	196.60	209.10	-1.50	3.49
-do- Acc	278.60	296.30	+2.10	3.49
Intl Growth	359.60	384.10	+2.30	...
-do- Acc	399.30	426.50	+2.50	...
Japan Gen	189.40	202.30	-2.20	...
-do- Acc	191.30	204.20	-2.30	...
Mngd F folio Inc	101.30	106.60†	+0.60	0.72
-do- Acc	106.50	112.10†	+0.70	0.72
Monthly Income	166.40	177.00	+2.00	3.59
Qnty Inc	54.60	58.07	+0.12	5.24
-do- Acc	55.38	58.90	+0.13	5.24
Recovery	327.70	350.40	+3.50	0.26
-do- Acc	385.00	411.70	+4.20	0.26
UK Growth	50.73	54.20	...	2.54
-do- Acc	50.73	54.20	...	2.54
FRIENDS PROVIDENT MANAGERS Castle Street, Salisbury, Wilts, SP1 3SH Dealing: 0722 411411 Administration: 0722 412622				
Equity Dist	382.90	407.34	-3.10	2.61
-do- Acc	781.88	831.79	-6.33	2.61
Euro Gth Dist	124.36	132.30	-1.09	0.67
-do- Acc	129.16	137.40	-1.13	0.67
Fixed Int Dist	140.77	148.90†	-0.67	5.69
-do- Acc	240.89	254.80†	-1.15	5.69
Intl Gth Dist	87.56	93.14	-0.08	0.53
-do- Acc	90.89	96.69	-0.09	0.53
Nth Amer Dist	183.15	194.02	-0.21	0.52
-do- Acc	199.63	211.47	+0.24	0.52
Pac Basin Dist	292.70	311.38	+4.87	0.01
-do- Acc	298.29	317.33	+4.97	0.01
Stewardship Dist	329.88	350.94	+1.65	1.83
-do- Acc	393.34	418.45	+1.96	1.83
Stwd Inc Dist	70.95	75.48	+0.13	3.12
-do- Acc	88.38	94.02	+0.15	3.12
N Am Stwd Dist	102.40	108.94	-0.41	...
-do- Acc	108.33	115.24	-0.44	...
GT UNIT MANAGERS Alban Gate, 14th Flr, 125 London Wall, London EC2Y 5AS. 071 710 4567 Dealing: 071 626 9431				
Am Sp Sits	152.60	163.20	+4.40	...
European	484.10	515.40	+0.70	1.40
Far East General	262.80	281.10	+2.20	0.26
Germany	120.30	127.90†	-0.50	...
Global Assets In	80.56	85.51	+0.24	0.88
Global Assets Ac	85.18	90.42	+0.26	0.88
Income Inc	144.10	154.20	+0.20	5.12
International	323.30	345.30	-0.50	0.68
Intl Income	87.61	92.93	+0.23	3.80
Japan General	410.00	436.30	-4.70	...
Smllr Cos Div	50.92	54.46	-0.02	5.33
UK Capital Inc	178.40	190.80	-2.00	1.84
-do- Acc	307.70	329.10	-3.40	1.84
Uk Spec Sits	86.43	92.46†	-0.03	0.41
US General	128.90	137.10	+0.20	...
W wide Spec Sits	147.60	157.40	+1.40	0.10
GARTMORE FUND MANAGERS Gartmore House, 16/18 Monument Street, London EC3R 8AJ. 071 623 1212 Dealing: 0277 264421. Services: 0800 289 336				
UK Growth Funds				
British Growth	48.87	52.30	-0.08	2.03
Cash Trust*	130.91	130.91†	+0.10	5.26
Pracs Inv Inc	113.00	121.09†	-0.02	3.64
-do- Acc	248.99	266.82†	-0.06	3.64
UK Smaller Cos	108.19	116.02†	+0.52	1.70
Income Funds				
Preference Share	27.44	29.35†	-0.04	7.97
High Inc	35.04	37.48	-0.18	4.70
UK Equity Inc	142.73	152.65	-0.56	3.50
Global Bond	30.89	32.05†	-0.21	4.34
International Funds				
Gold Intl	101.33	108.66	+2.94	0.62
Frontier Markets	53.04	56.88	+1.11	0.04
UK Intl	131.97	141.14	-0.12	0.84
Global Inc & Gth	132.55	141.28†	+0.25	3.47
Overseas Funds				
American	139.52	149.11	-0.17	0.46
European	94.60	100.34	-0.51	0.91
Euro Sel Opps	117.98	125.54	-0.04	0.58
American Emerg	100.17	107.42	+0.44	...
GOVETT (JOHN) UNIT MANAGEMENT Shackleton House, 4 Battle Bridge Lane, London SE1 2HR. 071 378 7979 Dealing: 071 588 0526				
Intl Growth	145.24	155.34	+0.99	0.24
American Gth	150.60	161.07	+3.27	...
European Gth	75.23	80.26	-0.58	0.52
Japan Gth	83.06	88.86	-1.63	...
Greater China	174.58	186.72	+5.75	0.95
Pacific Strategy	156.68	167.57	+3.94	0.15
UK Prog Inc	85.48	89.89†	-0.29	4.02
British Growth	54.37	57.33	+0.31	2.14
UK Small Cos	49.00	52.40	+0.20	1.10
GRE UNIT MANAGERS 36 Harbour Exchange Square, London E14 9GE. 071 538 9668				
Cash	133.00	133.00†	+0.10	4.69
Gilt Fixed	132.50	140.60	-1.00	4.58
Growth Equity	317.20	338.80	+0.30	1.97
Guardhill	464.70	496.40	-1.20	2.07
Income Trust	124.50	133.00	+0.10	3.13
International	178.30	190.40†	+0.50	0.05
Japan Trust	130.90	139.80	-2.20	...
Nth American	275.20	294.00†	-0.70	0.26
Pacific	524.90	560.70†	-28.30	...
European	418.70	447.30	-0.70	0.32
HSBC UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD 7 Devonshire Square, London EC2M 4HU 071 955 5055				
The Footsie Fd	117.70	124.30	-1.60	2.48
Dealing 071 955 5055				
James Capel Unit Trusts				
Dealing 071 955 5055				
Enquiries 0800 181890				
Index Funds				
American Index	203.90	216.50	+0.60	1.18
Eurotrack 100	150.00	159.70	-2.90	1.29
Japan Index	82.63	88.19	-3.29	0.12
Tiger Index	187.50	200.10†	+3.00	0.49
Trade Index	113.60	121.20	-0.30	2.08
UK Index	135.20	144.30	-1.40	2.76
Active Funds				
American Growth	469.00	499.40	+10.00	0.16
Capital	578.10	617.00†	-7.30	2.17
Euro Gth	96.42	102.80	-1.00	0.82
Far East Growth	106.20	113.30	-0.60	...
Global Bond	24.82	26.17	-0.30	5.42
Hong Kong	108.00	115.30	+5.60	0.52
Income	557.40	594.90†	-4.40	3.75
Intl Growth	79.03	84.34	-0.87	0.16
Japan Growth	281.30	300.20†	-11.80	...
Japan Smllr Cos	36.46	38.91	-1.20	...
S pore Mly Gth	74.83	79.86	-0.68	...
Midland Unit Trusts				
Dealing 0742 520200				
Enquiries 0742 529076				
Balanced Dist	59.98	64.15†	-0.53	2.60
-do- Acc	61.64	65.92†	-0.55	2.60
British Dist	82.93	88.70	-1.01	1.90
-do- Acc	93.88	100.40	-1.10	1.90
European Gth	196.80	210.50	-1.40	0.93
-do- Acc	247.10	264.20	-1.70	0.93
Extra High Inc	74.26	79.42	-0.60	5.67
-do- Acc	134.40	143.70†	-1.10	5.67
FT-SE 100 Index	52.53	56.18	-0.65	2.40
-do- Acc	53.32	57.02	-0.66	2.40
Gilt Fixed Int	58.82	61.23	-0.48	6.30
-do- Acc	159.10	165.60	-1.30	6.30
High Yield	240.40	257.10	-1.60	4.51
-do- Acc	564.40	603.60	-3.70	4.51
Income	300.30	321.20	-2.40	2.67
-do- Acc	634.90	679.00	-5.10	2.67
Japan Gth	351.40	375.80	-14.50	...

	Bid	Offer	+/-	Yld %
-do- Acc	370.90	396.60	-15.20	...
Mandarin	121.30	129.60	+0.20	0.56
-do- Acc	126.70	135.50	+0.20	0.56
Money Market UT	49.63	49.63	+0.03	4.61
-do- Acc	73.87	73.87	+0.04	4.61
HALIFAX STANDARD TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD PO Box 600, Edinburgh EH15 1EW 0800 838868				
Global Adv Inc	38.53	40.85	-0.25	1.41
-do- Acc	40.60	43.04	-0.26	1.41
Inc Adv Inc	32.50	34.45	-0.04	3.43
-do- Acc	34.42	36.49	-0.04	3.43
HAMBROS UNIT TRUST MANAGERS 5 Rayleigh Rd, Hutton, Brentwood, Essex Enquiries: 0277 227300 Dealing: 0277 690590				
Canadian	82.95	87.78†	-0.47	0.63
Equity Income	125.90	133.90	-1.60	3.17
European	150.20	159.00	-1.30	1.01
Intl Situation	83.17	88.48	-1.03	...
Japanese	143.40	152.10	-3.10	...
North American	95.29	101.10	-3.70	...
Scandinavian	137.60	146.40	-1.70	...
Smaller Cos	33.38	35.51	+0.88	1.80
HENDERSON PO Box 2357, Kings House, 121-135 Kings Road, Brentwood, Essex CM14 4ET Enq: 0277 263390 Dealing: 0277 234772				
UK Funds				
Special Sits	281.09	300.76	+0.53	1.40
-do- Acc	435.80	466.30	+0.82	1.40
Best of British	61.30	65.53	-0.54	2.10
UK Smlr Cos	117.51	126.35	+0.66	1.30
High Income Funds				
Income Gth	263.28	280.39	-1.34	3.12
-do- Acc	681.01	725.27	-3.47	3.12
High Inc	317.54	339.45†	-0.21	3.72
Extra Income	286.56	305.07†	+0.44	4.25
Pref Gilt	48.49	52.11†	-0.29	7.86
International				
International	257.21	274.44†	-0.09	0.38
Global Bond	59.41	63.20†	-0.36	6.40
Family of Funds	78.76	84.01	+0.21	0.53
Global Tech	143.46	153.43	-1.88	...
Overseas Funds				
Asian Enterprise	169.20	180.94	+4.99	0.24
European	439.55	468.17†	-5.78	0.35
European Inc	80.68	85.34	-0.30	2.36
Euro Smi Co	135.13	143.71†	+2.37	0.62
Euro Spec Sits	55.61	59.24†	+0.14	0.55
-do- Acc	59.39	63.27	+0.16	0.55
Japan	221.33	235.72	-4.46	...
Japan Spec Sit	253.66	270.00†	-4.68	...

The new Singer & Friedlander Tai Pan Fund.

Call 071-626 6226 for details and a free Economist Asia Survey.

	Bid	Offer	+/-	Yld %
Pacific Smllr Cos	242.43	257.90†	+6.22	...
N Amer	235.81	251.08	+2.29	...
Amer Smaller	105.22	112.47†	+0.39	...
HILL SAMUEL UT MANAGERS NLA Tower, Addiscombe Road, Croydon 081 686 4355				
British	96.59	103.30	+0.40	2.03
Capital	169.00	180.70	+0.70	1.72
Dollar	337.00	360.40	+2.30	0.01
European	225.90	241.60	-0.50	0.58
Far East	303.40	324.40	+5.80	0.35
Financial	831.40	889.10†	+9.60	1.54
Gilt Fxd Int Inc	27.80	28.88†	-0.12	7.09
High Yield	113.60	121.40	-0.40	4.10
Income	149.80	160.20	-0.60	3.10
Intl	237.70	254.20	-0.50	0.14
Japan Tech	72.82	77.88	-2.03	...
Nat Resources	66.11	70.70	+1.11	0.60
Security	323.60	346.00	+1.20	1.78
Smaller Cos	123.00	131.50†	+2.90	1.27
Special Sits	149.30	159.60†	+1.60	1.42
US Smaller Cos	81.42	87.08	+3.20	...
INVESCO FUND MANAGERS LTD 11 Devonshire Square, London EC2M 4YR 071 626 3434 Dealing: 0800 010733				
UK Specialist Trusts				
Smaller Cos	28.01	29.94	+0.40	1.17
Special Features	30.66	32.57†	-0.08	1.88
-do- Acc	36.54	38.82†	-0.09	1.87
General Funds				
UK Growth	59.11	63.21	-0.47	1.83
Assets Earnings	76.70	81.49	-0.70	1.96
do Acc	91.54	97.26	-0.82	1.96
Managed Invest	97.44	103.90	-0.20	1.08
Rupert Children	81.85	87.32	-0.55	1.86
High Income Funds				
Cashbox	50.41	50.41	+0.03	4.24
Extra Inc	88.05	94.08	-0.12	4.52
Gilt	29.66	31.24	-0.22	6.08
Income Gth	42.05	44.86†	-0.28	3.31
MIMstar	79.38	81.16†	-0.34	7.33
Preference	19.07	20.26	+0.11	6.12
UK Income	341.40	364.60†	-1.10	3.06
Sector Specialist Funds				
Fincl Sec	68.20	72.46	+0.01	1.03
Property Shares	78.20	84.06†	+0.28	1.15
Exempt Funds				
Exempt	160.50	168.30	-0.90	3.72
European Acc	132.60	140.40†	-0.70	1.15
European Dist	124.80	132.20†	-0.80	1.15
Overseas Growth Funds				
American Gth	50.87	54.07†	-0.04	0.79
European Perf	135.30	143.40	-0.20	0.14
-do- Acc	139.80	148.20	-0.30	0.14
Euro Small Cos	25.00	26.54†	+0.26	...

	Bid	Offer	+/-	Yld %
French Growth	74.81	79.48	-0.29	0.14
-do- Acc	79.92	84.91	-0.31	0.14
Hong K/China	92.03	97.78	+3.86	1.07
Intl Growth	56.36	59.88†	-0.36	0.31
-do- Acc	56.61	60.14†	-0.38	0.31
Japan Perf	34.32	36.44	-0.65	...
Accum Units	34.32	36.44	-0.65	...
Japan Smllr Cos	40.22	42.73†	-0.30	...
Singapore Asean	110.10	116.90	+2.30	...
-do- Acc	110.80	117.70	+2.30	...
South East Asia	305.80	324.90	+9.10	0.21
US Smllr Cos	118.90	126.30	+2.10	...
-do- Acc	120.20	127.70	+2.30	...
KLEINWORT BENSON UNIT TRUST LTD 10 Fenchurch Street, London EC3 071 956 6608. Dealing: 071 956 7354				
Income Trusts				
Extra Income	57.82	61.51†	+0.21	6.30
Gilt Yield	124.90	131.70†	-0.90	6.84
Global Income	227.70	242.20	+2.60	3.61
High Yield	147.50	156.90†	+0.70	5.47
Smllr Cos Div	55.31	58.87	+0.29	3.33
Capital Growth Trusts				
Amer Smllr Cos	97.76	104.00	+1.30	...
North American	79.60	84.68	+0.85	0.40
European	149.20	158.70	-0.80	1.41
Euro Special	87.31	92.88	+0.61	1.35
General	284.20	302.30	-1.10	2.95
Japan	439.60	467.70	-14.10	...
Japanese Special	252.70	268.80	-5.30	...
Master Acc	243.70	259.30†	+2.70	0.83
Pacific	335.20	356.60†	+12.70	0.41
Smaller Cos	110.60	117.70	+3.40	1.43
UK Equity Gth	40.39	42.97	-0.23	1.63
LAS UNIT TRUST MANAGERS 113 Dundas St, Edinburgh EH3 5EB 031 550 5151				
European	85.14	90.57	+0.46	0.87
Extra Income	26.32	28.00†	+0.13	3.44
Far East	31.73	33.75†	+0.46	0.25
Income Gwth	78.64	83.66	-0.33	2.77
Intl Growth	57.61	61.29†	+0.16	0.54
Japan	68.57	72.95	-1.19	...
Maximum Dist*	99.90	101.90†	...	6.81
N Amer Equity	40.23	42.80	-0.03	0.34
UK Equity	92.79	98.71†	-0.55	2.57
LAURENCE KEEN UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT 1 White Hart Yard, London SE1. 071 407 5966				
Income Gth Inc	56.77	60.39	+0.15	4.14
Smaller Cos	49.49	52.37	+0.68	0.95
LEGAL & GENERAL UT MANAGERS 5 Rayleigh Road, Hutton, Brentwood Essex Enq: 0277 227300. Dealing: 0277 690595				
Equity Dist	463.00	492.60	-3.30	2.45
Equity Acc	892.50	949.50	-6.40	2.45
Equity Income	102.20	108.70	-0.10	3.47
European	110.80	117.90	-0.20	0.95
Far Eastern	228.30	242.90†	+9.40	...
Fixed Interest	56.46	59.96†	-0.09	6.47
Gilt	96.13	101.90†	-0.80	6.08
Global Growth	77.84	82.81	+1.25	0.02
Intl Bond	58.62	62.30	-0.55	4.32
Japanese	75.10	79.89	-0.50	...
Overseas Equity	113.10	120.30	...	...
Pacific Gth	117.20	124.70†	+6.90	0.23
LLOYDS BANK UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD Mountbatten Hse, Chatham, Kent ME4 4JF 0634 834313				
Balanced	344.60	366.60	-1.00	2.57
-do- Acc	756.80	805.20	-2.10	2.57
Contl Euro Gth	59.27	62.39	-0.09	0.93
-do- Acc	62.68	65.98	+0.10	0.93
Extra Inc	264.20	281.10	+3.40	3.59
-do- Acc	653.30	695.00	+8.60	3.59
German Gth	123.60	130.20	+1.40	0.01
-do- Acc	129.70	136.60	-1.60	0.01
Growth Port	530.70	564.60†	-0.10	0.30
-do- Acc	535.20	569.40	-0.80	0.30
Income	484.00	514.90†	-7.70	3.64
-do- Acc	1264.0	1345.0	-19.00	3.64
Income Port	518.20	551.30†	-0.90	4.14
-do- Acc	531.60	565.60	-0.90	4.14
Japan Growth	104.90	111.60	-2.30	0.01
-do- Acc	105.30	112.10	-2.20	0.01
Master Trust	57.49	61.16	+0.16	1.24
-do- Acc	63.29	67.33	+0.17	1.24
N American Gen	198.60	211.30	-1.10	0.01
-do- Acc	229.40	244.10	-1.30	0.01
NAm Sm Co Rec	155.40	165.40	+3.30	0.01
-do- Acc	158.60	168.80	+3.30	0.01
Pacific Basin	274.30	291.90	+13.90	0.50
-do- Acc	289.90	308.50	+14.60	0.50
Small Cos Rec	340.60	358.60†	+9.50	2.41
-do- Acc	447.40	471.00	+17.00	2.41
UK Growth	84.73	90.14	+0.72	2.23
-do- Acc	99.82	106.20	+0.80	2.23
Worldwide Gth	322.30	342.90	-5.50	0.15
-do- Acc	475.30	505.70	-8.20	0.15
LONDON & MANCHESTER Winslade Park, Exeter EX5 1DS 0392 282673				
General	85.66	91.91	...	2.50
Income	67.23	72.13†	+0.26	4.90
International	62.56	67.12	-0.27	0.70
American	63.24	67.85	-0.16	0.30

	Bid	Offer	+/-	Yld %
Japan	55.65	59.71	-1.62	...
Tst of Inv Trusts	66.44	71.29†	-0.11	1.60
M & G SECURITIES LTD Victoria Rd, Chelmsford CM1 1FB Customer Services/Unit Dealing: 0245 390390				
American Gen	408.10	431.60	-0.50	0.72
-do- Acc	504.30	533.20	+0.60	0.72
American Rec	460.70	487.20	+8.90	0.23
-do- Acc	527.80	558.30	-10.30	0.23
Am Sm Co Acc	137.70	145.70	-0.40	...
Australia Acc	188.50	199.30	-1.70	1.06
Capital	749.80	792.90	-0.20	2.15
-do- Acc	837.50	885.50	-0.30	2.15
Commodity Acc	469.50	496.60	-2.90	0.60
Compnd Gth	906.50	958.70	-4.30	2.50
Dividend	39.40	41.70	-0.70	3.92
-do- Acc	156.10	165.30	-2.70	3.92
Equity Inc	330.80	349.80	-1.60	4.21
European Div	67.40	71.30	-0.30	3.66
-do- Acc	78.00	82.50	-0.40	3.66
European Gen	455.30	481.50	-0.30	0.71
-do- Acc	571.90	604.90	-0.40	0.71
Extra Yield	419.30	443.40*	-3.20	3.97
-do- Acc	1252.8	1324.9	-9.50	3.97
Far Eastern	371.30	392.60	+7.10	0.25
-do- Acc	489.80	518.00	+9.50	0.25
Fund of Inv	598.70	633.10	+2.50	1.89
-do- Acc	1092.0	1154.8	+4.50	1.89
General	59.90	63.30	-0.30	3.22
-do- Acc	160.20	169.40	-0.70	3.22
Gilt Fxd Int	67.11	67.22	-0.37	7.14
do Acc	171.10	171.36	-0.96	7.14
Gold	62.80	66.40	+0.50	0.58
-do- Acc	73.80	78.10	+0.60	0.58
High Inc	28.40	30.00	...	3.99
-do- Acc	107.50	113.60	...	3.99
Intl Growth	76.90	81.30	+0.40	0.65
-do- Acc	133.20	140.90	-0.80	0.65
Intl Inc	102.10	108.00†	-0.60	4.15
Japan Gen Acc	52.60	55.60	-1.00	...
Japan Smllr Cos	160.10	169.20	-2.60	...
Midland	59.30	62.70†	-0.80	2.91
-do- Acc	193.20	204.20	-2.70	2.91
Recovery	39.80	42.10	...	2.37
-do- Acc	63.30	67.00	...	2.37
Second Gen	70.50	74.60	...	2.96
-do- Acc	174.80	185.10	+0.10	2.96
MARKS & SPENCER UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD PO Box 408, Chester X, CH99 9QG 0244 688866				
Inv Port Inc	149.90	160.30	-0.80	1.91
-do- Acc	168.00	179.70	-0.80	1.91
UK Income	125.30	134.00	-1.00	2.30
-do- Acc	141.60	151.40	-1.10	2.30
MARTIN CURRIE UNIT TRUSTS LTD Saltire Court, 20 Castle Terrace, Edinburgh EH1 2ES. 031 229 5252				
Emerg Mkts	103.40	110.60	+1.30	0.16
Far East	156.40	166.00	-0.70	0.15
Income Growth	78.39	83.22	+0.53	3.01
European	79.59	84.49	-0.08	0.66
Nth American	61.63	65.42	-0.59	0.40
UK Growth	84.91	90.14	-0.20	1.74
Intl Growth	106.50	113.10†	-1.10	0.16
Charities	118.70	126.00	-0.80	3.95
Intl Income	74.94	79.59†	-0.14	4.43
Japan	56.96	60.47	-1.13	...
MERCURY FUND MANAGERS LTD 33 King William St, EC4R 9AS. 071 280 2860				
American	200.70	213.20	-0.80	...
-do- Acc	214.50	227.90	-0.60	...
Cash	100.20	100.22†	-1.00	5.44
-do- Acc	131.60	131.60†	-0.15	5.44
Emg Mkts Acc	109.80	118.10	-1.20	...
European Gth	227.30	241.00	-1.30	0.66
-do- Acc	244.70	259.50	-1.40	0.66
General	502.20	535.70†	-1.50	2.25
-do- Acc	960.90	1025†	-3.00	2.25
Global Dist	132.90	139.70	-1.20	5.70
-do- Acc	152.80	160.50†	-1.40	5.70
Income	153.40	163.40	-0.30	4.17
-do- Acc	227.80	242.70	-0.40	4.17
International	439.20	466.30	-0.10	0.60
-do- Acc	594.10	622.70	-0.10	0.60
Japan Acc	198.10	210.20	-4.50	...
New Europe	162.30	173.10	-0.80	1.50
-do- Acc	164.90	175.90	-0.70	1.50
Recovery	314.80	335.80*	-3.10	2.62
-do- Acc	399.00	425.60*	-3.90	2.62
European Inc	83.46	88.28	-0.20	2.76
-do- Acc	108.10	114.30	-0.20	2.76
Brit Blue Chip	77.70	82.77*	-0.14	3.05
-do- Acc	93.43	99.49*	-0.17	3.05
Portfolio	80.41	85.56*	-0.19	2.65
-do- Acc	92.28	98.19*	-0.21	2.65
Gold General	161.20	173.30	-7.20	2.54
-do- Acc	164.80	177.20	-7.30	2.54
Pacific	124.10	132.40	-5.60	0.63
-do- Acc	132.00	140.80	-5.90	0.63

For Midland Trusts see HSBC

	Bid	Offer	+/-	Yld %
MORGAN GRENFELL INVESTMENT FUNDS LTD 20 Finsbury Circus, London EC2M 1UT Dealing: 071 826 0826 Enq: 071 826 0123				
American Gth	302.40	322.10	...	...
Deposit Inc	100.06	100.06*	-0.06	5.36
Deposit Acc	124.32	124.32*	-0.09	5.36
Euro Gth Acc	346.50	369.20	-2.40	...
Europa	145.60	156.20	-0.10	...
Intl Gth	186.90	199.90	-1.40	...
Japan Tracker	80.86	85.64	-1.59	...
UK Equity Inc	168.60	181.40*	...	3.54
-do- Acc	209.50	225.00*	...	3.54
UK Ind Tracker	156.20	167.00	-2.60	2.88
US Eq Ind Trkr	200.20	212.40*	-0.30	1.38
-do- Acc	213.20	226.00*	-2.30	1.38
Asian Tracker	212.40	226.40*	+9.30	0.37
MURRAY JOHNSTONE UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT 7 West Nile St, Glasgow G1 2PX. 0345 090 955				
American Inc	172.90	177.30	-1.20	2.57
European	69.93	71.15*	-0.07	1.32
Olympiad	63.85	65.51	-0.13	0.18
Global Bond	49.62	50.23	-0.40	6.11
Smaller Cos	72.77	77.04	-0.29	1.10
Equity Income	99.74	102.40*	-0.60	4.46
UK Growth	90.00	92.50	-0.20	1.77
NM UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD The Bilton Centre, North Harbour, Portsmouth. Enquiries: 0705 372222 Dealing: 0705 387730				
American Acc	49.65	52.95	-0.22	1.13
Australian Acc	372.80	399.90	-3.40	...
Conscience	67.93	72.49	-1.37	1.36
-do- Acc	73.32	78.24	-1.48	1.36
European	192.80	205.10	-0.60	0.78
-do- Acc	207.40	220.60	-0.70	0.78
Extra Income	77.26	82.45*	-0.45	5.39
-do- Acc	120.20	128.20	-0.70	5.39
Far East Gth	212.00	226.60*	-10.70	...
Gilt Fxd Inc	61.29	64.66	-0.49	5.89
Gold	52.66	56.62	-0.05	...
-do- Acc	56.72	60.98	-0.23	...
Income	57.71	61.55	-0.21	4.59
-do- Acc	176.80	188.30	-0.60	4.59
International	33.04	35.33	-0.12	0.59
-do- Acc	47.47	50.77	-0.19	0.59
Jap Sm Cos Acc	358.20	382	-6.60	...
S pore Mly Acc	264.30	283.40	-14.70	...
Smllr Cos Acc	28.11	30.22	-0.48	0.70
N&P UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD 35 Fountain St, Manchester M2 2AF 061 237 5322				
N&P UK Growth	73.07	77.74	-0.11	2.42
N&P Gilt Fxd Int	79.54	84.17	-0.28	5.86
N&P Higher Inc	219.00	233.00	-0.70	4.38

	Bid	Offer	+/-	Yld %
N&P UK Income	111.30	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
N&P Intl	96.16	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
N&P Smaller Cos	80.25	85.39†	+0.42	1.41
NEWTON FUND MANAGERS 71 Queen Victoria St, London EC4V 4DR 071 332 9000				
General	184.99	[illegible]	[illegible]	1.50
Global	331.05	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Growth	118.94	126.54†	[illegible]	[illegible]
Income	223.61	[illegible]	-1.09	[illegible]
Intl Bond	139.30	[illegible]	-1.35	[illegible]
PEARL UNIT TRUST LTD PO Box 500, Peterborough PE2 6BR 0733 470470. Dealing: 0800 626577				
Growth	150.50	158.40	-1.00	[illegible]
-do- Acc	266.70	280.70	-1.80	[illegible]
Income	241.70	257.00†	-0.70	[illegible]
Intl Equity	246.50	[illegible]	+0.30	[illegible]
-do- Acc	271.60	258.80	+0.30	[illegible]
Equity	238.20	255.30	-1.30	[illegible]
-do- Acc	458.30	519.50	-2.40	[illegible]
UK Intl 25 Acc	76.84	81.74	-0.33	1.79
UK Income	66.83	71.09	-0.25	[illegible]
UK Smllr Co Acc	83.52	86.85	+0.15	1.42
New Europe Acc	69.77	74.22	-0.54	0.93
PERPETUAL UNIT TRUST 48 Hart Street, Henley on Thames 0491 417000				
Asian Smllr Mkt	124.96	133.65	-5.38	0.01
PEP Growth	113.88	121.90	-0.75	1.07
Intl Gth	557.26	596.01	-5.51	0.25
Income	336.24	359.62†	-1.66	2.84
W wide Recov	355.73	380.46	-3.35	0.21
American Gth	229.12	245.05	-2.55	0.01
Intl Emerg Cos	226.59	242.35	-2.68	0.01
Far East Gth	264.11	282.48	-5.75	0.08
European Gth	135.40	144.82	-0.37	0.52
UK Growth	85.27	91.20	-0.26	2.49
High Income	93.78	100.31	-0.09	4.96
Japanese Gth	222.11	236.01	-5.09	0.01
PROLIFIC UNIT TRUST MANAGERS Walbrook Hse, 23 Walbrook, London EC4N 8LD. Dealing: 0800 282443				
International	201.80	214.60†	-3.30	0.52
High Income	116.50	124.00†	-1.60	3.49
Conv Gilt	122.30	130.00	-3.40	5.59
Far East	373.30	397.10†	+10.80	0.32
Global Inc Acc	35.30	37.55	-0.21	4.25
PROSPERITY UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT 1 Sessions Hse Sq, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1XX. 0622 674751				
American	54.58	58.06	+0.91	0.05
Emerging Mkts	86.17	91.67	+1.94	0.55
General	51.66	54.96	-0.43	2.73
International	92.18	98.06	-0.35	0.70
Gilt Units	26.92	27.75	-1.07	7.10
Global PEP	38.93	41.42†	-0.28	1.78
Income Gth	73.09	77.76	-0.52	3.96
European	48.38	51.47	-0.42	1.25
Gilt/Fixed Int	27.65	29.41†	-0.12	5.15
PRUDENTIAL UNIT TRUSTS LTD 51/69 Ilford Hill, Ilford, Essex IG1 2DL 081 478 3377. Enquiries: 071 911 4490 Intermediary Dealing: 071 911 4314 Pricebank: 0426 925091				
Pru Mngd Tst	35.24	37.68	...	1.36
Pru Csh Hvn Inc	101.66	102.16	+0.07	4.77
-do- Acc	106.87	107.39	+0.07	4.77
Pru Equity	713.05	762.62†	-4.98	2.36
Pru Equity Inc	87.21	93.27	-0.31	4.19
Pru European	201.01	214.98	-0.09	0.78
Pru Global Gth	87.55	93.63	-0.46	1.36
Pru High Inc	92.38	98.80†	-0.75	3.83
Pru Intl	178.61	191.02	-0.03	1.08
Pru Intl Sm Co	77.81	83.21†	+0.38	0.53
Pru Japanese	205.67	219.96	-6.12	...
Pru Nth Amer	161.65	172.88	-0.60	0.62
Pru Pacific Mkt	102.47	109.59	+4.55	0.86
Pru Premr Inc	51.57	53.69†	-0.35	5.61
Pru Smllr Cos	87.03	93.08†	-0.09	2.12
Pru Spec Sits	106.27	113.65	-0.75	3.22
Pru UK Grwth	118.04	126.24	-1.02	2.08
ROTHSCHILD FUND MANAGEMENT St Swithin's Lane, London EC4N 8NR Dealing: 071 634 2981/4				
FA Amer Smllr Cos	47.50	50.00	...	...
FA Asia	51.53	55.10	+2.24	...
FA Jap Smllr Cos	47.50	50.00	...	...
FA Income	171.52	183.66	-1.44	3.16
FA Japan	284.75	303.12	-5.08	...
FA Maj UK Cos	100.33	107.12	-0.42	1.98
FA America Inc	527.59	561.70	-3.17	0.65
-do- Acc	614.81	654.55	-3.69	0.65
FA Smllr UK Cos	285.50	309.70†	-0.80	1.05
FA European	285.79	303.45	-1.52	0.86
SAVE & PROSPER GROUP 16-22 Western Rd, Romford RM1 3LB 0708 766966 or 0800 829829 (IFAs only)				
Amer Inc Gth	74.44	79.19†	-0.47	3.32
Capital Units	158.50	168.80	-1.40	1.02
Commodity	120.00	127.70	-1.40	0.62
European Gth	181.40	193.20	-0.70	0.69
Financial Sec	195.40	207.90	-2.60	1.22
High Return	227.90	242.40	-1.10	3.51
High Yield	224.50	238.80†	-0.80	3.66
Income Units	120.90	128.60	-0.60	4.28
Investment	203.70	216.70†	-0.20	0.82
Japan Gth	166.70	177.30†	-6.20	...
Japan Smaller	194.60	207.00	-5.00	...
Masterfund	52.54	55.89	-0.01	2.81
Scotbits	294.90	313.70	-4.30	0.91
Scotshares	281.80	299.80	-0.80	2.16
Scotyields	240.50	255.80	-1.90	3.69
Select Intl	142.30	151.40†	+0.90	0.55
Smaller Cos	243.70	259.30†	+0.10	3.71
Special Situation	177.70	189.20	-0.30	0.63
UK Equity	242.80	258.30	-1.80	2.74
US Growth	149.20	158.70	+0.40	0.06
SCHRODER UNIT TRUSTS LTD Senator House, 85 Queen Victoria St, London, EC4V 4EJ. Client line: 0800 526 535 Broker line: 0800 526 540				
American	250.47	266.25	-0.30	0.66
-do- Acc	271.37	288.47	-0.33	0.66
Australian	151.35	161.44	+3.16	1.17
-do- Acc	178.84	190.76	+3.74	1.17
UK Enterprise	236.05	251.78	-0.05	2.12
-do- Acc	275.84	294.23	-0.06	2.12
European Gth	69.86	74.40	-0.43	0.94
-do- Acc	72.56	77.26	-0.44	0.94
Euro Smllr Cos	64.25	68.44	-0.01	0.33
-do- Acc	64.69	68.91	-0.01	0.33
Far Eastern Gth	89.44	95.40	+2.43	...
-do- Acc	90.89	96.94	+2.47	...
Fixed Interest	55.61	58.81†	-0.32	5.95
-do- Acc	70.26	74.03	-0.40	5.95
Gilt Income	109.31	115.20†	-0.76	7.00
-do- Acc	156.87	165.34†	-1.08	7.00
Global Bond	55.58	57.41	-0.41	5.23
-do- Acc	57.00	58.88	-0.42	5.23
Global Emg Mkts	49.37	52.66	+0.39	...
-do- Acc	49.37	52.66	+0.39	...
Income	349.18	372.45†	-2.35	3.73
-do- Acc	1049.3	1119.3	-7.07	3.73
Japan Enterprise	70.26	74.94†	-1.18	...
-do- Acc	70.26	74.94	-1.18	...
Japan Smllr Cos	503.56	537.13	-16.50	...
-do- Acc	504.57	538.20	-16.54	...
Pacific Gth	131.29	140.04	+6.71	0.26
-do- Acc	135.19	144.19	+6.90	0.26
Smaller Cos	209.58	223.87	+4.49	0.90
-do- Acc	242.75	258.92	+5.19	0.90
Tokyo	117.95	125.81†	-1.71	...
-do- Acc	119.14	127.08	-1.72	...
UK Equity	234.43	250.05	-1.49	2.41
-do- Acc	440.11	469.45	-2.80	2.41
US Smllr Cos	151.86	161.98	-0.50	...
-do- Acc	151.86	161.98	-0.50	...
World Fd	78.66	83.90	-0.28	1.67
-do- Acc	83.62	89.19	-0.30	1.67

	Bid	Offer	+/-	Yld %
SCOTTISH AMICABLE UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD 150 St Vincent St, Glasgow G2 5NQ 041 204 2200				
Equity Income	49.99	[illegible]	-0.55	3.25
Equity Strategy	[illegible]	[illegible]	-0.47	0.69
European Opps	91.43	[illegible]	-0.42	0.55
Maximum Inc	98.90	101.34	+0.08	5.45
UK Smaller Cos	60.99	64.94	-0.54	1.29
SCOTTISH LIFE INVESTMENTS 19 St Andrew Sq, Edinburgh. 031 225 2211				
UK Equity	[illegible]	[illegible]	-1.80	2.59
American	[illegible]	252.20	-0.10	0.75
Pacific	[illegible]	423.20	-8.20	0.50
European	515.90	551.20	-1.60	0.94
Worldwide	[illegible]	99.92	-0.34	0.77
SCOTTISH MUTUAL INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT 109 St Vincent St, Glasgow G2 5HN 041 248 6100				
UK Equity	327.10	348.00	-0.80	2.32
UK Sm Cos Eqty	[illegible]	240.30	+0.50	1.51
European	375.20	399.20	-3.10	1.34
North American	275.90	293.60	+0.90	0.39
Income Plus Inc	72.09	76.70†	+0.11	2.67
SCOTTISH PROVIDENT INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT LTD 6 St Andrew Sq, Edinburgh EH2 2YA 031 556 2341/2/3				
Equity Gth Acc	28.32	30.20	-0.14	2.67
Intl Growth Acc	33.14	35.47	+0.07	0.73
Market Ldrs Acc	27.95	29.92	-0.13	2.75
SINGER & FRIEDLANDER INVESTMENT FUNDS LTD 21 New Street, Bishopsgate, London EC2M 2HR 071 626 6226				
European‡	113.10	..	-1.80	..
Global Bond‡	103.30	..	-0.60	7.28
Japan Samurai‡	93.25	...	-2.98	...
UK Growth‡	106.60	..	+0.50	3.73
STANDARD LIFE TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD 3 George St, Edinburgh EH2 2XZ 0800 393777				
Managed	49.26	52.34	-0.17	1.36
Equity Gth Acc	67.11	71.31	-0.52	1.19
UK Eq General	45.50	48.35†	-0.31	1.96
-do- Acc	60.40	64.18	-0.41	1.96
European Acc	47.25	50.22	-0.21	0.55
Far East Acc	65.19	69.26	-0.17	0.15
Gilt Fxd Int Inc	32.88	34.78†	-0.20	6.26
N American Acc	45.49	48.33	+0.23	0.64
O/s Lgr Cos Acc	304.20	330.10	-2.30	1.46
UK Eq High Inc	39.13	41.58†	-0.03	3.25
-do- Acc	47.00	49.94	-0.06	3.25
UK Lgr Cos Inc	311.50	339.00†	-1.80	3.50
UK Lgr Cos Acc	410.50	445.40	-2.50	3.50
STATE STREET UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD Birchin Court, 20 Birchin Lane, London EC3V 9AQ. 071 626 1977				
Global A	NZ$3.537	4.075	-0.03	1.30
US Eq	$2.277	$2.375	-0.01	1.12
Far East Eq	Y250.10	Y265.60	-3.40	...
Japan Eq	Y251.70	Y267.30	-3.60	...
FT Europe	125.00	132.70	...	1.96
FT North Am	$1.767	$1.873	-0.01	1.27
FT Japan	Y246.40	Y261.80	-0.30	...
FT Asia Ex Jap	$2.339	$2.485	+0.03	1.24
STEWART IVORY UNIT TRUST MANAGERS 45 Charlotte Sq, Edinburgh 031 226 3271				
American	362.20	385.90	-0.40	0.33
British	1021.2	1080.4	+0.70	3.36
European	446.50	474.80†	+5.10	1.21
Japan	158.60	168.60	-2.00	...
New Pacific	369.80	393.90	+7.60	0.82
Mngd Cash	95.66	95.66†	+0.07	5.06
Majority Stg	99.87	100.87†	+0.07	4.75
Inv Tst	216.10	229.10†	-0.50	1.54
Saints PPP	380.20	400.20	-29.50	...
SUN ALLIANCE Admin. 5 Rayleigh Rd, Hutton, Essex 0277 227300 Dealing: 0277 690389				
Equity Acc	804.60	860.50	-3.20	2.72
N America Acc	129.00	138.00	-0.80	0.17
Far East Acc	151.20	161.70	+3.80	0.26
W wide Bond	63.39	67.29†	-0.62	5.22
European	96.93	103.70†	-0.50	0.15
Equity Income	93.78	100.30	-0.60	3.77
SUN LIFE OF CANADA Basingview, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 2DZ Dealing: 0256 841414				
American Gth	35.45	37.92	-0.08	0.51
Managed Assets	129.24	138.23	-1.00	2.54
UK Income	40.62	43.45	-0.34	2.75
UK Growth	39.08	41.80†	-0.42	2.12
Worldwide Gth	34.14	36.52†	-0.06	0.55
TSB UNIT TRUSTS LTD Charlton Place, Andover, Hants. SP10 1RE 0264 346794				
American	227.78	242.32	+1.36	...
-do- Acc	250.89	266.90	+1.50	...
British Gth	94.12	100.13†	+0.47	1.82
-do- Acc	111.46	118.57†	+0.51	1.82
European	105.64	112.39	-0.46	0.18
-do- Acc	112.28	119.44	-0.50	0.18
Extra Inc	202.83	215.78	-0.30	3.87
-do- Acc	331.65	352.79	-0.50	3.87
General Unit	290.06	308.57	-1.55	2.25
-do- Acc	579.40	616.39	-3.09	2.25
Income	358.14	381.00	+5.24	3.36
-do- Acc	744.21	791.71	+10.87	3.36
International	545.97	580.81†	+8.57	0.12
-do- Acc	716.31	762.03†	+11.25	0.12
Pacific	407.42	433.43	+9.06	...
-do- Acc	428.10	455.43	+9.53	...
Premier Income	54.47	56.74†	-0.03	6.13
-do- Acc	116.79	121.65†	-0.07	6.13
THORNTON UNIT MANAGERS LTD Swan House, 33 Queen St, London EC4R 1AX 071 246 3000 Dealing: 071 246 3001				
European Opps	68.77	72.99	-0.20	0.40
-do- Acc	69.49	73.75	-0.20	0.40
WAVERLEY UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD 13 Charlotte Sq, Edinburgh EH2 4DJ 031 225 1551				
Australasian Gold	19.90	21.16	+0.21	0.50
Pacific Basin	40.40	42.97	+0.71	0.60
Canadian Gth	40.27	42.84	+1.42	...
Global Bond	$0.983	$1.0239	+0.00	6.92
Penny Share	26.35	28.03	-0.06	1.50
WHITTINGDALE UNIT TRUST MANAGERS 2 Honey Lane, London EC2V 8BT 071 606 3132				
City Reserve	53.55	53.55	+0.03	4.88
Gilt Growth	74.18	77.20	-0.47	...
Gilt Income	54.78	57.00	-0.33	6.75
Short Dtd Gilt	112.90	114.40	-0.50	...
US Govmnt Bd	$0.7214	$0.7306	+0.00	...
Challenger	101.70	106.00	-0.90	...
WOOLWICH UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD 2 White Oak Square, Swanley BR8 7AG 081 298 4000				
Stockmarket Fd	74.37	79.11	-0.46	1.81

Source: Finstat

* Yield expressed as CAR (Compound Annual Return); † Ex dividend; ‡ Middle price; ... No significant data.

FT-SE VOLUMES

ASDA Gp	25,000	Cadbury	602	MEPC	503	Scot & New	575
Abbey Natl	1,100	Carlton C	1,800	Marks Spr	3,200	Scot Power	3,200
Alld-Lyons	841	Coats Vyla	1,500	NFC	1,500	Sears	878
Anglian W	1,600	Cm Union	1,000	NatWst Bk	2,300	Svrn Trent	847
Argyll Gp	2,800	Courtaulds	941	Nat Power	2,000	Shell Trans	4,900
Arjo Wiggn	794	Enterpr Oil	2,000	Nth Wst W	1,500	Siebe	690
AB Foods	405	Forte	1,300	Nthrn Fds	2,000	SmKl Bch	1,900
BAA	369	GRE	967	P & O	994	Smith Nph	851
BAT Inds	6,300	GUS A	n/a	Pearson	1,700	Std Chartd	1,700
BOC	1,600	Gen Acc	368	PowerGen	421	Sun Allnce	1,600
BP	10,000	Gen Elec	6,400	Prudential	2,500	TI Gp	855
BT	4,800	Glaxo	3,800	RMC	215	TSB	3,000
BTR	8,300	Granada	434	RTZ	2,100	Tesco	6,300
Bk of Scot	1,400	Grand Met	2,500	Rank Org	2,500	Thames W	1,300
Barclays	3,000	Guinness	5,700	Reckitt Col	964	Thrn EMI	587
Bass	2,900	HSBC	8,300	Redland	567	Tomkins	4,000
Blue Circle	1,500	Hanson	10,000	Reed Intl	3,100	Unilever	1,500
Boots	1,200	ICI	2,300	Rentokil	4,100	Utd Bisc	711
Bowater	1,100	Inchcape	1,500	Reuters	439	Vodafone	7,600
Brit Aero	1,400	Kingfisher	1,700	Rolls Royce	4,200	Wrbrg (SG)	1,600
Brit Airwys	1,600	Ladbroke	4,600	Rothmans	n/a	Wellcome	9,300
Brit Gas	5,200	Land Secs	314	Ryl Ins	2,400	Whitbd 'A'	93
Brit Steel	3,200	Legal & Gn	1,000	Ryl Bk Scot	961	Wlms Hld	562
Burmah C	301	Lloyds Bk	3,000	Sainsbury	4,800	Wolseley	680
Cable Wire	10,000	MB Caradn	984	Schroders	198	Zeneca	1,900

MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):
Dow Jones 3686.74 (-1.12)
S&P Composite 467.81 (+0.08)

Tokyo:
Nikkei Av'ge 19702.97 (+223.52)

Hong Kong:
Hang Seng 9329.09 (+318.82)

Amsterdam:
CBS Tendency 135.9 (+0.3)

Sydney: AO 2112.2 (+35.9)

Frankfurt:
DAX 2069.00 (+30.54)

FT 30 share: 2397.8 (+4.5)

Brussels:
General 7030.29 (+29.03)

Paris: CAC 606.54 (+4.57)

Zurich: SKA Gen 625.10 (+3.20)

London:
FT A All-Share 1565.37 (+2.55)
FT 500 1673.98 (+1.81)
FT Gold Mines 225.5 (-1.0)
FT Fixed Interest 124.35 (same)
FT Govt Secs 102.67 (+0.02)
Bargains 36034
SEAQ Volume 800.9m
USM (Datastrm) 151.30 (-0.18)

TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

First Dealings	Last Dealings	Last Declaration	For Settlement
October 25	November 5	January 27	February 7

Call options were taken out on 29/10/93: Aegis, Aminex, Burton, Business Tech, CentreGold, Cluff Res, Greycoat Prf, Kewill Sys, Learmonth, LIT Prf, Lon Secs, Prospect Ind, Rhino, Telemetrix, Vodafone.
Puts: Tiphook, Vodafone. Put & Call: First National.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Close	Volume
FT-SE 100 (Previous open interest: 66005)	Dec 93	3191.0	3197.0	3182.0	3185.0	9236
	Mar 94	3206.0	3206.5	3201.5	3201.0	572
Three Month Sterling (Previous open interest: 375048)	Dec 93	94.61	94.64	94.55	94.55	38700
	Mar 94	94.78	94.79	94.71	94.71	10691
	Jun 94	94.80	94.80	94.71	94.72	6412
Three Mth Eurodollar (Previous open interest: 10796)	Dec 93	96.48	96.48	96.48	96.47	163
	Mar 94				96.46	0
Three Mth Euro DM (Previous open interest: 697028)	Dec 93	93.87	93.88	93.83	93.84	22018
	Mar 94	94.53	94.54	94.49	94.51	14275
Long Gilt (Previous open interest: 121615)	Dec 93	114-14	114-20	113-26	114-03	64023
	Mar 94	113-17	113-17	113-05	113-11	193
Japanese Govmt Bond	Dec 93	114.43	114.52	114.43	114.49	1850
	Mar 94	113.71	113.74	113.71	113.75	125
German Gov Bd Bund (Previous open interest: 180848)	Dec 93	100.10	100.25	100.02	100.10	76451
	Mar 94	100.23	100.33	100.15	100.21	513
German Gov Bd Bobl (Previous open interest: 22362)	Dec 93	102.38	102.55	102.37	102.49	3319
	Mar 94					0
Three month ECU (Previous open interest: 31825)	Dec 93	93.09	93.10	93.02	93.03	1188
	Mar 94	93.88	93.89	93.83	93.81	478
Euro Swiss Franc (Previous open interest: 48037)	Dec 93	95.67	95.70	95.66	95.66	4329
	Mar 94	96.08	96.10	96.06	96.06	963
Italian Govmt Bond (Previous open interest: 90308)	Dec 93	117.20	117.22	115.90	116.47	47255
	Mar 94	116.80	117.05	116.16	116.25	603

MONEY MARKETS

Exchange index compared with 1985 was up at 80.8 (day's range 80.7-80.8).

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for Oct 29	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	2.7941-2.8029	2.7972-2.8006	[illegible]	[illegible]
Brussels	53.94-54.30	54.15-54.26	12-18ds	41-53ds
Copenhagen	10.0150-10.0560	10.0150-10.0370	[illegible]	[illegible]
Dublin	1.0540-1.0570	1.0542-1.0565	5-9ds	20-27ds
Frankfurt	2.4877-2.4946	2.4893-2.4926	[illegible]	[illegible]
Lisbon	256.41-257.50	256.65-257.29	90-167ds	302-417ds
Madrid	199.41-199.84	199.41-199.63	57-70ds	185-203ds
Milan	2417.90-2426.60	2418.10-2422.10	5-7ds	18-21ds
Montreal	1.9620-1.9690	1.9620-1.9649	0.27-0.17pr	0.49-0.30pr
New York	1.4863-1.4885	1.4863-1.4873	0.33-0.32pr	0.82-0.80pr
Oslo	10.8600-10.8930	10.8600-10.8830	[illegible]	[illegible]
Paris	8.7080-8.7420	8.7130-8.7350	[illegible]	[illegible]
Stockholm	12.0610-12.1200	12.0610-12.1000	[illegible]	[illegible]
Tokyo	160.93-161.36	160.93-161.20	[illegible]	[illegible]
Vienna	17.50-17.57	17.52-17.55	[illegible]	[illegible]
Zurich	2.1977-2.2053	2.2001-2.2032	[illegible]	[illegible]

Source: Extel. Premium - pr. Discount - ds.

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso*	1.4860-1.4885
Australia dollar	2.2316-2.2340
Bahrain dinar	0.5545-0.5665
Brazil cruzeiro*	254.79-256.17
Cyprus pound	0.746-0.756
Finland marka	8.5045-8.6205
Greece drachma	352.75-359.75
Hong Kong dollar	11.4947-11.5039
India rupee	46.20-47.16
Kuwait dinar KD	0.4395-0.4495
Malaysia ringgit	3.8031-3.8058
Mexico peso	4.58-4.68
New Zealand dollar	2.6824-2.6866
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.517-5.643
Singapore dollar	2.3606-2.3628
S Africa rand (fin)	6.2734-6.3223
S Africa rand (com)	4.9838-4.9895
U A E dirham	5.4005-5.6245

Barclays Bank GTS * Lloyds Bank

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

Australia	1.4997-1.5008
Austria	11.79-11.80
Belgium (Com)	36.27-36.30
Canada	1.3202-1.3207
Denmark	6.7410-6.7460
France	5.8675-5.8695
Germany	1.6750-1.6760
Hong Kong	7.7275-7.7285
Ireland	1.4066-1.4086
Italy	1626.8-1628.3
Japan	108.33-108.43
Malaysia	2.5560-2.5570
Netherlands	1.8816-1.8821
Norway	7.3156-7.3176
Portugal	172.60-172.80
Singapore	1.5865-1.5875
Spain	134.23-134.33
Sweden	8.1341-8.1441
Switzerland	1.4802-1.4807

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 6 Finance Hse 6
Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 9½ Low 5½ Week fixed: 6
Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth [illegible]; 3 mth [illegible]. Sell: 2 mth [illegible]; 3 mth: [illegible].

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
Sterling Money Rates:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
Interbank:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Overnight: open [illegible], close [illegible].			[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Local Authority Deps:	[illegible]	n/a	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Sterling CDs:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Dollar CDs:	3.09-3.05	n/a	3.29-3.25	3.31-3.28	3.54-3.50
Building Society CDs:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

TREASURY BILLS: Applcts: £868m allotted: £200m; Bids: £98.75% received: 97%; Last week: £98.75% received: 100%; Avge rate: £5.0137% last wk £5.0137%; Next week: £200m.

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Deutschemark:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	7-6
French Franc:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Swiss Franc:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	5-4
Yen:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

GOLD AND PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

Bullion: Open $369.30-360.80 Close: $368.30-368.80 High: $370.20-370.70
Low: $368.10-368.60 Krugerrand: $367.50-369.50 (£246.00-248.00)
Sovereigns: Old $86.00-88.00 (£57.00-59.00) New $86.00-88.00 (£57.00-59.00)
Platinum: $374.50 (£251.75) Silver: $4.37 (£2.935) Palladium: $130.00 (£87.40)

LIFFE OPTIONS

		Calls			Puts		
	Series	Oct	Jan	Apr	Oct	Jan	Apr
Alld Lyon	550	52½	62½	67½	10½	16	26½
(*590)	600	21	33	40½	33	38	51
Argyll	280	25	33½	39	11½	15	20
(*296)	300	14	23½	29	22	25½	33
ASDA	50	7½	9	11½	3	4	5
(*54)	60	3	4½	6½	8	10	11
Boots	500	33	46	54	14	21½	29½
(*518½)	550	11	22	29½	44	49½	59½
Br Airways	360	32	41	48	12	17	25½
(*377½)	390	14	25½	33	29½	33	41
BP	330	28	35	41	7	11½	15
(*349½)	360	12½	19½	25½	21½	25½	29½
Br Steel	120	16½	20½	24	5½	8	10½
(*129½)	130	10½	15	19	9½	13	15½
C & W	500	30	41	52	24½	30½	37
(*500½)	525	17	28½	39	39½	45½	51½
CU	600	66	72½	83	6	15½	21
(*649½)	650	30½	39½	52½	23	35½	42
ICI	681	59	—	—	13	—	—
(*716)	750	21½	31½	42	46½	65½	71
Kingfshr	650	37	53½	62	21½	30½	41½
(*657)	700	15	29½	38½	51½	59	68½
Land Sec	700	51½	64½	76	11½	17½	21½
(*737)	750	20½	34½	47½	34½	41	44
M & S	390	26	34½	39½	10½	15	21
(*403½)	420	11½	19½	25	26½	30½	36
Nat West	550	31½	38½	48	18	31	36
(*559)	600	11	17½	29½	51	62	65
Sainsbury	390	26	36	41½	17	23½	29
(*395½)	420	15½	24	29	35½	41½	46½
Shell	700	36½	43½	54½	16½	28½	34
(*710)	750	13½	21	31½	46	57	60½
Smkl Bch	390	45	53	61½	12	18	24
(*419½)	420	27	36½	46½	25	31½	38
Storehse	180	22	25	28½	4½	7½	10½
(*195½)	200	9½	13½	17½	14	17	19½
Trafalgar	90	9	14½	17	5	6½	8½
(*96½)	100	5	9	12	10½	10½	14½
Unilever	1150	43	58½	74	39½	55½	63
(*1150)	1200	21	35½	52½	71½	86	90½
Zeneca	750	55	67	77½	20½	39	47
(*773)	800	28	41½	53½	46½	67	73½
	Series	Oct	Feb	May	Oct	Feb	May
Grnd Met	390	41	46½	53	12	15	20½
(*417½)	420	22	29½	36	26	29	34
Ladbroke	160	23	25½	27½	6½	11½	13½
(*172½)	180	12	14½	17½	16	23	25
Utd Bisc	360	32	38	42½	14	25	28
(*371½)	390	17	23½	28	30	42½	45

October 29, 1993 Tot: 26399 Call: 14358 Put: 12041 FT-SE Call: 3702 Put: 7915
*Underlying security price.

		Calls			Puts		
	Series	Nov	Jan	Apr	Nov	Jan	Apr
BAA	850	33½	46½	65	9	22	30½
(*871)	900	8½	22	39½	36	50½	57½
Thames W	500	47½	49½	59½	2	6½	10½
(*544)	550	8½	18	28½	21	26	31
	Series	Nov	Feb	May	Nov	Feb	May
BAT Ind	475	30	45	—	3½	13½	—
(*499)	500	12	29½	33½	12	24	34
BTR	360	17	27½	30½	4	9½	15½
(*372½)	390	3½	12½	16	22½	26½	32½
Br Aero	420	23	45½	52½	15	34	40
(*426)	460	8	28	35½	41	57½	63
Br Telcm	460	12½	22	29½	7½	19½	23
(*462)	500	1½	7	13½	39	46	48
Cadbury	453	31½	41½	47	3	9	18
(*478½)	493	6	21	25	19	28	38½
Guinness	420	24	38	47½	5½	14	23
(*435)	460	5	17	27	28½	35½	46
GEC	330	27	33½	39½	1½	6½	9
(*352½)	360	5	14½	21½	12	19½	22½
Hanson	260	14	19	22	3	8½	11
(*270½)	280	3	9	12½	12½	19	22
LASMO	140	10	17½	22½	4½	10	13
(*144½)	160	3	9	14	17½	22	25
Lucas	160	13½	21	24	3	8	12
(*169)	180	3½	9½	13½	14½	18½	23
Pilkingtn	140	11	16	19	3	8½	12
(*147)	160	2½	7	11	16½	22	24
Prudential	360	14	26	30	6	12½	19½
(*366½)	390	2½	11½	15½	25	30	37½
Redland	500	44	60½	67½	4	13	24½
(*537½)	550	11½	30	39½	22½	34½	49½
Royal Ins	288	31½	39½	—	1½	5	—
(*316½)	317	9	20½	—	9	16	—
Tesco	200	9	17	22	5½	13	16½
(*203)	220	2½	8½	12½	20	23	28½
Vodafone	550	24	46	58½	19½	36½	45½
(*552)	600	7½	25	37	53½	67½	74½
Williams	330	15	26½	32	5½	12½	20½
(*337½)	360	3	12½	17	25½	30	37½

FT-SE INDEX (*3170½)

	3000	3050	3100	3150	3200	3250
Calls						
Nov	178	130	86	48	22	7
Dec	196	153	113	78	50	30
Jan	217	176	138	105	76	52
Feb	230	191	154	123	95	73
Jun	265	—	200	—	144	—
Puts						
Nov	3	5	10	24	50	90
Dec	14	20	31	46	69	102
Jan	28	38	49	67	88	116
Feb	33	45	58	77	100	129
Jun	64	—	97	—	141	—

		Calls			Puts		
	Series	Dec	Mar	Jun	Dec	Mar	Jun
Abby Nat	390	37½	45½	49	3½	11	14½
(*419½)	420	16½	26	31½	13½	24	27½
Amstrad	45	6	8	9½	2½	4	5½
(*48)	50	3	5½	7	5	7	8
Barclays	550	36	49½	55½	10½	21	25½
(*570)	600	10½	22½	31	37	47½	52
Blue Circ	300	16	27½	31	12	18½	27
(*301½)	330	5	14½	18	32½	37	45½
Br Gas	330	22	31½	35½	4½	8½	15
(*345)	360	7	15½	19½	19½	23	30
Dixons	260	18½	27½	35	10	18½	22½
(*265½)	280	9	18½	25	21½	29	33½
Forte	220	12½	21	24	9	14½	20½
(*221½)	240	4½	12	15	22½	27	32½
Hillsdwn	160	8½	16½	18	6½	10½	15½
(*164½)	180	2	8	9½	20½	23½	29½
Lonrho	120	15	20	23	4	8½	10½
(*129½)	130	9	15	18	8½	14	15½
Sears	110	8	13	14½	3	5	7½
(*115)	120	4	7½	9	8	10½	13
Thrn Eml	950	36½	56	74½	28	47½	55
(*950½)	1000	15½	34	52½	60	77½	85
Tomkins	240	17	25	30	6	12	14½
(*249½)	260	6½	14½	20½	17	23	25½
TSB	220	15	20	23½	6	12½	15
(*226½)	240	5½	11	14½	17½	23½	26
Wellcome	650	55	78½	89	19½	30	41½
(*689½)	700	30½	53½	62	46	56½	65½
	Series	Dec	Apr		Dec	Apr	
Glaxo	650	58	81	100	17	39½	50½
(*683)	700	29	55½	75	41	64½	75½
HSBC	750	41	67	79½	22	47	56½
(*761½)	800	17½	43	57	51½	75½	84
Reuter	1600	81½	126	159	39	76	92½
(*1630)	1650	53½	97	131½	63½	99½	116½
	Series	Dec	Feb	May	Dec	Feb	May
R-Royce	137	21½	24	—	2	5	—
(*153)	156	8	13	—	9½	14	—
	Series	Oct	Dec	Mar	Oct	Dec	Mar
Fisons	160	9½	17	19	11	16	23
(*161)	180	4	9	12	26	29½	36
	Series	Nov	Feb	May	Nov	Feb	May
Eastern Elc	600	23	37½	48	7½	21½	26
(*612½)	650	3½	15	23½	38½	51	54½
	Series	Dec	Mar	Jun	Dec	Mar	Jun
Natl Pwr	390	31	41	47½	5	10½	16
(*417)	420	13	23½	30	17	22½	29½
Scot Pwr	390	33½	39½	47	3	9	11½
(*416)	420	13	21½	29	13	21½	24½

COMMODITIES

COMMODITIES REPORT: London coffee eased back from its early highs, tracking New York and ending the day mixed, while cocoa remained stuck in the minus column throughout late trading, waiting for fresh news. White sugar prices climbed higher, supported by a firmer US market and news that Russia had rejected proposals for a whites import tax and also rumours that India may buy raws or white sugar.

LONDON COMMODITY EXCHANGE

COCOA

Dec	941-940	Mar	956-955
Mar	970-969	May	956-954
May	978-977	Jul	960 BID
Jul	978-977	Sep	967-963
Sep	979-976		
Dec	955-954	Volume: 2816	

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

Nov	1194-1193	Jul	1195-1190
Jan	1211-1210	Sep	1195-1190
Mar	1203-1200	Nov	1200-1190
May	1196-1195	Volume: 4989	

NO.7 PREMIUM RAW SUGAR (6.00pm)

		Oct	11.02-11.13
Spot: 266.50		Jan	unq
Mar	10.80-10.85	Mar	unq
May	11.00-11.05	May	unq
Jul	11.24-11.30	Volume: 64	

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		Aug	288.0-86.2
Spot: 296.0		Oct	276.5-75.7
Dec	284.3-84.0	Dec	277.5-75.5
Mar	281.5-81.2	Mar	281.4-79.4
May	283.5-82.7	Volume: 838	

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION
Average fatstock prices at representative markets on October 29

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB:	65.24	81.37	120.99
(+/-)	+1.09	+0.17	-0.38
Eng/Wales:	65.24	81.12	120.57
(+/-)	+1.09	+0.18	-1.14
(%)	-7.4	-39.9	-42.3
Scotland:	n/a	82.60	123.41
(+/-)	n/a	-0.57	+6.85
(%)	n/a	-9.5	+38.9

LONDON MEAT FUTURES
Live Pig (£/kg)

	Open	Close		Open	Close
Aug	unq	-	Mar	unq	-
Sep	unq	-	Volume: 0		

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

WHEAT (close £/t)

Nov	98.00
Jan	100.10
Mar	102.05
May	104.15
Jun	105.15
	Volume: 168

BARLEY (close £/t)

Nov	101.40
Jan	102.75
Mar	105.25
May	107.25
Sep	94.25
	Volume: 25

HI-PRO SOYA (close £/t)

Aug	unq
Oct	-
Dec	-
Feb	-
Apr	-
	Volume: 0

POTATO

(£/t)	Open	Close
Nov	unq	82.5
Apr	85.0	84.3
May	100.0	103.8
	Volume: 253	

RUBBER
No 1 RSS Cif (p/k)
Nov 61.50-62.00

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm): A rash of pre-weekend selling was caused by reports that Opec was over-producing.

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	15.50	-0.40
Brent 15 day (Nov)	15.55	-0.45
Brent 15 day (Dec)	15.85	-0.45
W Texas Intermediate (Dec)	16.90	-0.55
W Texas Intermediate (Jan)	17.15	-0.50

PRODUCTS ($/MT)
Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

	Bid	Offer
Premium Gas .15	182 (-2)	184 (-2)
Gasoil EEC	162 (-3)	163 (-3)
Non EEC 1H Nov	166 (-3)	167 (-1)
Non EEC 1H Dec	166 (-3)	167 (-3)
3.5 Fuel Oil	60 (n/c)	62 (n/c)
Naphtha	151 (-2)	153 (-2)

IPE FUTURES GNI Ltd

GAS OIL

Nov	161.25-61.50	Feb	160.00 SLR
Dec	161.50 SLR	Mar	159.25 BID
Jan	160.50 SLR	Apr	158.25-58.50
			Vol: 18574

BRENT (6.00pm)

Dec	15.87-15.88	Mar	16.34-16.40
Jan	16.08-16.10	Apr	16.42-16.51
Feb	16.26 SLR		Vol: 35739

UNLEADED GASOLINE

Nov	166.00-68.50	Feb	n/a
Dec	165.00-67.75	Mar	n/a
Jan	n/a		Vol: 150

BIFFEX GNI Ltd ($10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Nov 93	1355	1340	1342
Dec 93	1348	1345	1348
Jan 94	1350	1349	1350
Apr 94	1365	1355	1365

Vol: 104 lots. Open int'st: 3068 Index 1317 -5

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE Rudolf Wolff (Official) (Volume prev day)

	Cash	3mth	Vol
Copper Gde A ($/tonne)	1614.5-1615.0	1635.5-1636.0	1532825
Lead ($/tonne)	400.50-401.00	414.00-414.50	125050
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	935.00-935.50	951.00-951.50	446700
Tin ($/tonne)	4695.0-4700.0	4740.0-4750.0	12165
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1048.5-1049.0	1069.5-1070.0	672725
Nickel ($/tonne)	4600.0-4605.0	4655.0-4660.0	61482

Scrappy end to account

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began October 18. Dealings ended yesterday. §Contango day Monday. Settlement day November 8. §Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days. Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

BANKS, DISCOUNT, HP

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
439	345	Abbey Nat	420	-4	11.6	3.5	16.2
290	179	Allied Irish	286	-1	...	3.6	14.6
197½	130	Aus New Z	193	-6	...	4.5	
3806¼	2712	Bankamerica	2825	-37			
286	177	Bk of Ireland	282	-1	...	4.4	20.8
350	325	Bk Leumi UK	350	...	17.0	6.1	
197	116½	Bank Scotland	193	...	4.6	3.0	26.2
577	362	Barclays	570	-6	...	2.1	
4½	2	Benchmark	3½				
21	15½	Carlisle	18½				
595	395	Cater Allen	572	-3	27.0	5.9	
153	85	Cattles	146	-2	...	3.9	10.4
2487½	1787½	Chase Manh	2250	-50			
2800	1343½	Citicorp	2475	-25			
453	250	Close Bros	453	-5	...	3.0	16.5
£139½	9225	Commerzbk	£136½	-87½	...	3.0	
£342½	£250½	Deutsche Bk	£337½	-159½	...	1.9	
95	45	First Nat Fin	86½	...	...	0.7	
1651	876	Fuji Bank Y	1401	...	...	0.4	
529	343	Gerrard Nat	488	-1	21.5	5.6	12.8
775	490	HSBC	762	-15	20.0	3.3	18.2
774	474	HSBC HK	771½	-15½	20.0	3.2	18.5
403	343	Hambros	403	-1	14.0	4.3	18.6
428	313	Joseph (L)	416	...	16.6	5.0	
155	96	King Shaxson	150	...	9.0	7.5	
528	312	Kleinwort Ben	529	-2	16.7	4.0	18.1
591	402	Lloyds	565	-1	19.1	4.2	16.2
118	63	Lon Scot Bk	95	...	2.9	2.5	16.4
562	322	Nat Aust Bk	562	-4	...	3.5	20.4
586	398	Nat West	555	...	17.5	4.0	25.7
400	270	Provident	428	-6	12.4	3.6	19.5
54	39	Rea Bros	52	-1	0.5	1.3	55.3
362	207	Ryl Bk Scot	356	-4	9.0	3.2	
1335	467½	Schroders	1263	...	...	1.2	25.2
1060	576	Stand Chart	1058	-16	20.5	2.4	
227	145½	TSB	227	-2	6.4	3.5	
190	78	Union Disc	166	-2			
926	529	Warburg SG	921	-11	...	2.6	23.3
8600	4843¾	Wells Fargo	7475	-75			
199	121	Westpac	199	...	...	3.9	
325	188	Wintrust	325	...	9.3	3.6	29.1

BREWERIES

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
646	517	Allied-Lyons	590	-3	...	4.4	15.9
647	441	Bass	498	...	19.1	4.9	10.6
299	189	Boddington	271	...	7.5	3.5	15.9
459	362	Bulmer (HP)	439	...	...	2.6	19.2
167	129	Burtonwd Brw	156	...	4.7	3.0	12.0
130	75	Eldridge P 'A'	129	...	...	3.2	14.1
68½	50	Fosters Brewing	63	...	...	4.2	∞
435	338	Fuller Sm 'A'	432	...	...	2.1	16.5
480	383	Grand Met	417	-4	12.5	3.8	13.6
427	347	Greenalls Grp	390	-3	12.0	4.0	12.6
575	505	Greene King	574	...	...	2.7	16.2
521	389	Guinness	435	-2	...	3.5	16.2
291	230	Hardy Hansn	255	...	7.8	3.4	14.1
138	105	Heavitree	138	...	3.0	2.5	32.9
353	255	Highland Distl	343	...	6.6	2.4	∞
3138	2538	Holt J	3038	...	42.0	1.7	19.8
80	33	Hoskins Brew	73	-2	...	...	52.6
323	250	Invergordn Dist	299	-1	...	3.0	17.1
186	131	Macallan-Glen	131	...	4.3	4.2	29.4
405	375	Macdn Martn 'A'	390	...	...	2.8	18.6
225	164	Mansfield	215	...	...	2.2	15.4
290	231	Mston Thmp	294	...	...	2.4	17.5
510	288½	Matthew Clark	510	...	...	4.4	17.0
300	253	Mrrydwn W	255	...	7.0	3.4	20.1
545	455	Morland	515	...	4.7	2.1	23.5
12	6½	Paramount	8½	...	...	2.1	∞
199	145	Regent Inns	195	...	...	2.9	19.8
1088	753	SA Breweries	1043	-12	...	2.6	17.7
475	393	Scot & New	467	-2	...	4.5	14.5
225	181	Taunton Cider	190	...	6.0	3.9	15.5
263	213	Vaux Group	262	...	9.3	4.5	14.1
356	225	Wetherspoon JD	356	-1	5.4	1.9	∞
574½	435	Whitbread 'A'	520	-1	...	4.3	14.0
1425	850	-do- 'B'	1200	...	...	1.8	30.1
613	463	Wolvrhmptn D	494	-2	11.6	3.0	13.9
515	475	Young 'A'	478	...	14.5	2.6	19.8

BUILDING, ROADS

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
135	73	Abbey	135	...	...	1.7	22.2
25½	12½	Albrighton	19				
148	87	Allen	138	...	5.0	4.5	31.3
120	65	Amec	112	...	3.0	3.3	20.7
12	4	Anglia Sec	7½				
323	155	Ashtead	323	...	4.5	1.8	33.0
142	101	Atwoods	124	...	5.0	5.2	∞
276	180	BPB Ind	267	...	...	3.5	45.9
91	57	Baggeridge Brk	85	...	3.1	4.6	28.6
31	18	Bailey (Ben) Con	26½	...	0.6	2.8	
108	74	Barcom	93	...	1.2	1.7	16.9
56½	32½	Bardon	41	...	2.0	6.1	20.2
195	94	Barratt Devs	179	...	4.0	2.8	∞
459	305	Bellway	459	...	...	3.3	26.6
40	15	Bellwinch	40				
449	295½	Berkeley Gp	438	...	...	1.2	27.5
116	45	Bett Bros	96	...	...	0.7	3.9
63	36	Blockleys	56	...	1.0	2.2	61.9
305	189	Blue Circle	302½	+1½	...	4.6	
285	230	Boot (Henry)	269	...	6.0	2.8	15.0
106	78	Breedon PLC	91	...	4.6	6.3	22.4
125	82	Br Dredging	125	...	5.2	5.3	27.2
86	45	Brit Fittings	84	...	1.7	2.6	
151	99	Bryant	142	...	...	4.2	28.7
113	53	CALA	113	...	...	2.3	
328	200	CRH	328	+2	...	2.6	18.0
43	18	Cakebread Rby	30				
41½	21	Costain	30½				
150	80½	Countryside	149	+1	...	3.4	39.4
98½	38	Crest Nicholson	96	-1	0.0	...	
112	27	Cussins	98	...	...	1.3	
7½	1½	Dunton	3½	-1			
25	15	Edmond Hldgs	19	...	0.3	2.0	
275	178	Epwin	273	...	7.0	3.2	23.1
59	32	Erith	57	...	0.3	0.8	
488	252	Eve Group	488	+5	...	2.6	17.6
6½	3	Explanra	3½				
140	97	Freeman Gp	129	...	...	4.8	20.5
50	38	Galliford	40½	...	1.0	3.1	∞
81	52	Gibbs & Dandy	81	...	...	1.5	
923	695	Gleeson (MJ)	923	...	12.7	1.7	∞
164	90	Hewden-Stuart	163	...	...	2.5	29.1
51	28	Hewetson	46	...	...	3.4	34.0
358	186	Heywd Wm	355	...	12.5	4.4	
119	37	Higgs & Hill	113	...	2.5	2.8	
38	26	How Gp	29½	...	...	4.8	
21	15	Howard Hldgs	21	...	0.5	3.0	
78	39	Ibstock Johnsen	61	...	1.0	2.0	
14	12½	Jarvis	14				
316	196	Laing (J)	303	-1	9.0	3.7	12.1
127½	103	-do- 6.4% Cv Pf	120½				
103	55	Ln Clydeside	103	...	4.5	5.5	38.8
23	10½	Lovell (YJ)	17	-1	...	...	7.7
350	240	Manders	299	...	9.3	3.9	18.3
168	93	Marley	159	...	4.2	3.3	46.6
115	61	Marshalls	111	-3	...	4.5	76.4
185	122	Maunders (J)	185	...	5.1	3.5	∞
217	96	Mcalpine (A)	213	...	0.5	3.8	36.9
47	23	McCarthy & S	44	...	0.5	1.4	
445	272	Meyer Int	430	...	...	2.9	43.1
129	62	Mowlem (J)	118	...	4.0	4.2	
156	51	NSM	146	+1			
53	48	Needler	48	...	...	3.7	22.4
171	106	Newman Tnks	150	...	...	5.6	20.0
300	197	Persimmon	294	...	8.6	3.7	30.0
36	10	Phoenix Timber	10				
1625	1237½	Pochins	1525	...	28.0	2.4	∞
163	80	Prowting	150	-6	3.4	3.8	
6½	1½	Quiligotti	1½				
840	555	RMC Gp	805	-8	...	3.1	30.2
117	75½	Raine Ind	77	-1½	...	4.9	18.2
36	18	Ramus	30				
575	402	Redland	538	-6	25.0	5.8	31.3
82	64	Roskel	82	...	4.3	6.6	12.1
296	207	Rugby Group	285	+3	6.4	2.8	21.8
68	23	Syrfid-Pre	67	...	...	0.5	
145	68	Sharpe & Fisher	144	...	...	3.5	25.0
239	86½	Sheffield Insl	239	+2	...	2.8	58.7
170	82	Sherill Hldgs	170	...	...	1.7	25.3
95	66	Shortco	84	...	...	7.7	19.1
240	196	Sman (J)	225	...	8.5	4.7	10.2
6½	2½	Stormin	3				
156	100	Tarmac	137	-½	5.5	5.0	
194	137	Tay Homes	176	...	5.8	4.2	∞
139	63	Taylor Woodrw	123	...	1.0	1.0	
633	433	Tilbury Dougls	630	+2	33.0	6.5	20.5
39	19	Torex Hire	36	-1	...	1.4	
280	168	Travis Perkins	277	...	8.0	3.6	48.8
40	28	Try Group	29	...	1.0	4.3	8.2
28	23	Tudor	23	...	...	1.4	
94	41	Vibroplant	93	...	2.5	3.4	33.4
65	30	Ward Hldgs	40				
38	25	Waterhouse	35	+2			
475	360	Watts Blake	425	...	...	3.5	18.3
21½	6½	Wescol	18				
167	90	Westbury	164	...	5.0	3.8	25.6
12	4½	West Scaffold	7				
3½	3	Wiggins	3½				
469	371	Wilson Bowdn	446	...	8.8	2.5	30.6
205	147	Wilson (C)	192	...	3.9	2.6	33.3
194	104	Wimpey G	174	...	...	3.6	
47	25	YRM	38	...	0.5	1.6	

BUSINESS SERVICES

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
675	463	ADT	605	-5			
238	196	Adam & Harvey	235	...	12.0	6.4	4.3
92	56	Air London	63	...	...	7.2	∞
56	37	African Lakes	47	...	2.0	5.3	
178	83	Auto Sec	143	...	...	5.3	25.6
138	84	BET Ord	126	-1	...	2.3	5.0
111	41	BNB Res	109	...	4.9	5.7	
318	258	BPP	306	...	8.3	3.4	16.9
285	195	Barbour Index	227	...	8.0	4.4	15.5
27	15	Boustead	23	...	0.7	3.8	
269	184	Brit Data Mgt	266	...	4.7	2.2	19.3
26	11	Broadcastle	26	...	...	1.2	20.7
73	54	Brooks Service	62	-1	...	1.0	
100	86	CRT Gp	97	...	...	3.6	17.2
193	139½	Capita Group	185	...	...	1.5	25.9
45	31	Caster Plc	43½	-½	...	2.3	16.7
55	18½	Chiltern Capital	23½				
51	26	Chrisdie	50				
370	228	Chubb Sec	363	...	...	1.6	22.5
100	18	Comaco	90	...	...	2.1	22.1
37	6½	Corp Services	36				
78	20	Coutts Cnsltg	75	+2			
125	50	Dart	125	...	3.3	3.3	17.0
256	198	Davis Service	217	-1	...	4.6	16.3
104	85	EW Fact	104	...	4.4	5.5	11.7
32	11	Gardiner	23½	...	0.4	2.2	16.3
277	215	Hays	267	-½	5.3	2.5	∞
248	174	Hogg Robinsn	238	...	...	3.5	17.4
70	35	Holmes Protectn	39	...	...	...	2.4
253	127	Hutch Whamp	253	+10	...	1.9	21.1
2175	975	ISS B DKr	2150	-25	...	4.6	3.0
637	490	Inchcape	498	+8	...	3.6	16.2
873	669	Johnson Clean	870	...	25.7	3.7	19.0
12	2½	Lep	9½				
288	173	Mite Gp	279	...	3.5	1.6	21.7
1187	893	Manpower	1083	-14			
62	40½	Michael Page	60	...	1.8	3.8	25.5
279	125	Penna	128	...	...	9.8	4.8
4½	2	Prime People	3½				
142	74	Proudfoot Alex	78	-1	...	24.0	4.3
423	337	RCO	387	...	14.1	4.6	13.3
118	86	REA	97	...	2.0	2.6	
118	43	Reed Executive	104				
156	108	Reliance Sec	110	...	...	5.1	23.9
238	178	Rentokil	201	-2	2.5	1.6	25.1
283	220	Rolfe & Nolan	360	...	...	3.5	14.7
399	334	Salvesen (C)	366	-1	...	2.7	20.1
39	26	Scott Pickford	35	...	...	2.9	11.2
10	5	Select Appt	8½				
1203	695	Serco Gp	1203	...	13.3	1.4	33.3
352	124	Shered Cmp	145	...	...	6.0	4.2
130	90	Sketchley	106	...	...	3.5	24.2
355	310	Warner Howrd	345	...	6.5	2.4	18.0
45	27	Welpac	32				
26½	14	Wills Gp	25½	+1	0.4	3.0	∞

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
248	210	Allied Colloids	240	-1	...	2.2	21.1
925	613	Amersham	925	+11	...	1.8	32.0
7	1½	Anglo Utd	2				
£111½	8325	BASF DM	£110½	+212½	...	6.0	
300	199	BTP	295	-4	...	3.9	20.3
£128½	£101½	Bayer DM50	£127½	+84½	...	4.5	
178	134	Blagden	164	...	6.5	5.0	17.7
165	93	Brent Chems	117	...	...	7.9	10.7
530	345	Br Bio-Tech	393				
20	7½	Caird Gp	9	...	...	22.2	25.0
180	126	Canning (W)	166	-2	7.2	5.5	19.0
608	482	Courtaulds	509	+13	...	3.4	13.5
335	228	Croda	335	...	...	3.0	19.2
149	121	Doeflex	124	...	4.6	4.6	9.5
226	175	Ellis & Everard	218	...	...	4.0	20.8
41	15½	Euro Colour	40	+1	0.8	2.5	24.5
342	259	Halstead (J)	341	...	6.5	2.4	∞
241	167	Hickson	172	...	...	5.8	15.9
£118	8850	Hoechst	£113½	+75	...	3.2	
229	195	Holliday Chem	223	...	...	2.1	20.5
740½	608	ICI	716	-2	...	4.8	
693	576	Laporte	676	-1	19.0	3.7	18.7
230	181	Leigh	210	...	...	4.7	20.3
97½	35	MTM	53	+1			

DRAPERY, STORES

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
102	55	Alexon	71	...	...	5.1	
87	42	Amber Day	55	...	3.1	7.0	15.1
358	257	Argos Plc	341	-2	...	2.6	29.1
25	12	Ashley Group	12	...	...	2.0	
118	69	Ashley (Laura)	92	...	0.1	0.1	
330	224	Asprey	330	...	5.1	1.9	22.0
154	94	Austin Reed	154	...	...	2.0	
155	125	Beattie (J) 'A'	154	...	...	5.0	15.5
121	56	Bentalls	110	...	1.9	2.2	
276	179	Betterware	200	-7	...	1.3	23.0
47	22	Blacks Leis	46	...	2.2	6.2	
337	173	Body Shop	311	-3	...	1.1	27.1
16	11½	Brown & Jackson	12½			0.8	6.6
474	318	Brown (N)	423	-5	...	2.2	24.7
87½	64½	Burton	76	...	...	1.3	
157	126	Cantors	156	...	4.0	3.2	∞
360	276	Church	344	...	12.5	4.5	31.0
183	97	Clinton Cards	164	...	4.3	3.3	19.8
290	212	Coats Viyella	276½	-2½	...	3.4	38.2
112	74	Colourvision	96	...	5.6	7.1	17.6
181	154	City Casuals	179	...	...	3.0	16.1
605	374	Courts Furnish	605	...	5.5	0.0	10.1
155	115	Crown Eyes	135	...	...	6.5	9.2
130	74	Dairy Farm Intl	126	...	...	2.9	18.5
88	51½	Dewhirst (IJ)	88	...	0.8	1.1	28.3
282	189	Dixons Grp	266	-3	...	2.9	
21	5	ERA Gp	11	+1			
530	401	Ely (Wimbldn)	530	...	16.0	3.8	18.2
169	71	Essex Furn	148	...	...	3.0	∞
273	203	Etam	254	...	7.0	3.5	23.1
618	499	Fine Art Dev	575	-1	12.7	2.8	18.8
70	26	Fired Earth Tiles	60				
573	496	Forminster	573	...	14.0	3.1	10.4
180	24	French Conna	140				
24	43	Gent SR	73	...	2.1	3.6	∞
78	23	Goldsmiths Gp	72	+2	0.3	0.5	
543	334	GUS	537	+2	...	1.4	17.2
40	23	Hampden Grp	25	...	...	5.4	11.4
77	30	Hartstone	63	...	...	5.6	
27½	21	Helene Plc	26	...	2.0	9.7	12.3
75	29	Heritage	74				
70	35	Honeysuckle	71	...	...	4.0	∞
161	63	Jacques Vert	160	...	...	2.3	12.3
691	496	Kingfisher	656	-3	...	2.6	22.6
74	62½	Leslie Wise Gp	69	...	4.0	7.2	14.2
685	495	Liberty	575	...	7.2	1.6	67.7
320	241	Lloyds Chem	275	...	7.2	3.3	∞
152	120	MFI	140½	-2½	...	3.3	29.5
406	311	Marks Spencer	407½	-½	...	2.5	22.2
580	445	Menzies (John)	577	...	...	2.3	16.3
253	135	Moss Bros	253	+2	5.5	2.7	29.5
212	129½	Next	194½	-3	3.5	2.3	23.0
41	15	Oliver (G)	39				
324	197	Oriflame Intl	321	-3	...	3.7	15.7
63	38½	Pentos	44	...	0.8	2.3	9.2
313	185	QS Hldgs	191	+2	5.1	3.4	13.6
51½	20½	Rhino Grp	50½	+½			
168	120	Rosebys	167	...	...	3.6	20.0
181	135	Sherwood Gp	156	...	...	2.1	14.1
119½	93	Sears	115	+½	...	3.8	
41½	11	Signet Group	30½	+1½			
499	400	Smith WH 'A'	482	-6	...	3.7	15.8
20	4½	Spectaleyes	18				
229	176	Storehouse	195½	-1½	...	3.2	25.2
191	146	T & S Stores	159	...	6.0	4.7	11.8
162	71	Tie Rack	158	+1	1.0	0.8	25.9
239	160	Time Products	237	...	7.7	4.1	20.2
129	63	Usher (Frank)	110	...	...	6.8	9.5
45	27	Vivat	36	-2	1.0	3.5	11.1
48	34	Wensum	47	+3	...	5.1	
119	76	Wickes	114	...	...	0.2	51.7
78	45	Wid of Leather	68				
198	146	Wyevale	184	-3	...	2.9	24.3
4	2½	Xtra-vision	3				

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
550	413	Caledonia	550	...	...	3.4	20.4
1700	1075	Camellia	1600	...	...	2.4	6.0
316	243	Candover	311	...	10.4	4.2	22.2
256	71	Ficmoch	254	...	...	0.2	
340	155	Govett	340	+1	...	4.8	10.0
188	125	Ivory Sime	154	+1	...	5.3	14.5
6½	3	LIT	4				
12	11	Lignashlp	12				
240	154	Lon Forfaiting	238	...	8.7	4.6	17.3
72	47	Manakin	72	...	5.0	8.7	∞
12½	3½	Nat Home Loan	4½				
52	40	Newmarket	51				
341	246	Rathbone Brs	327	...	6.5	2.5	19.9
26	17	Rutland Tst	24½	...	...	4.1	14.5
340	253	S & U	319	...	10.2	4.0	11.9
83	48	Singer & Fried	80½	...	...	4.7	
975	713	Sotheby's	908	...	...	3.8	
126	120	SIP Capital	125	...	3.0	3.0	51.6
2556½	1487½	Amer Express	2112½	-84½			
1133	835	Henderson Ad	1123	+3	...	4.7	25.0
200	92	Invesco	171½	+½	...	2.2	
286	164	Jardine Stral	286	+17	...	2.8	12.0
236	154	MAI	230	-3	...	3.8	14.6
719	384	MAM	718	+10	15.0	2.6	17.9
1015	631	M & G	1005	+5	...	2.7	26.7
408	309	Smith New Ct	407	+2	...	1.8	6.2
81	55	Trio Hldgs	76	...	...	4.9	

FOODS

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
530½	456	AB Food	494	+5	14.0	3.5	11.2
77½	52	ASDA Group	54	-1½	1.6	3.7	12.9
305	170	Acatos & Hutch	284	-1	7.6	3.4	16.4
80	55	Albert Fisher	74	-1	3.7	6.5	∞
407	285	Argyll	296	...	...	4.6	10.9
230	160	Banks (S C)	230	...	9.0	4.9	10.3
402	310	Barr (AG)	321	...	6.5	2.5	16.3
85	57	Bensons Crsps	60	...	...	5.2	15.5
141	112½	Berisford Intl	112½	-2			
455	357	Booker	385	-3	...	7.1	33.4
52	35	Borthwick	48	+½	...	3.1	59.6
505	430	Brake Bros	470	+9	6.3	1.7	19.0
51	38	Budgen	44	...	...	2.8	13.4
503	407	Cadbury-Schw	479	-3	...	1.5	16.9
132	78	Carrs Milling	132	+10	3.9	3.7	26.4
196	156	Cranswick	191	...	...	5.2	14.3
22	8½	Cullens	13½	...	0.5	4.6	38.8
384	119	Dalepak	136	...	0.0	5.5	10.7
521	424	Dalgety	468	-5	...	5.5	13.4
54	27	Daniels S	50	...	...	0.6	
248	191	Devro	243	+1	...	2.8	23.1
134	90	Everest	104	...	...	4.4	18.9
380	260	Fairpak	380	+1	5.7	1.9	23.4
10	3	Farringford	8				
94	64	Finlay (James)	81	...	...	6.6	26.2
125	78	Fyffes	100	...	...	1.5	18.0
483	328	Geest	379	-4	8.1	2.7	16.9
16	7	Global	13½	...	...	4.6	21.0
48	43	Grand Central	48	...	1.2	3.3	∞
203	147	Hazlewood Fds	189	...	...	4.2	10.7
175	131	Hillsdown	165	...	8.8	6.8	12.8
250	175	Iceland Group	177	-2	...	2.5	11.2
131	103	JLI Group	108	...	...	5.4	12.0
853	642	Kwik Save	642	-9	16.7	3.3	12.3
262	160	Low (Wm)	162	+1	8.4	6.5	7.8
83	41	Matthews (B)	77	...	2.3	3.8	50.4
19½	12½	Merchant Retail	15½	...	1.1	8.9	31.7
174	97	Morrison (W)	98	-1	...	1.1	12.7
230	177	Nichols (JN)	230	+2	13.9	7.6	6.7
291	234	Nthn Foods	234	-6	...	4.5	11.6
20½	9½	Nthmbrn Fns	12				
229	172	Nurdin Peack	189	...	...	4.1	10.5
251	205	Park Foods	241	...	...	3.1	18.6
115	78	Perkins Food	84	...	...	6.6	9.6
114	47	PizzaExpress	104	-1	...	0.6	22.0
9	1½	Regina Hlth	4½				
584	395	Sainsbury J	395½	-6½	...	3.2	13.9
86	33	Sentry Farms	73	...	...	2.6	13.1
125	94	Sims Food	114	-1	...	8.2	22.0
439	355½	Tate & Lyle	382	+4	12.3	4.0	12.0
273	189	Tesco	203	-3½	...	4.5	9.2
211	123	Thorntons	168	...	...	2.7	
183	101	Treats	156	...	...	3.0	17.8
410	300	Unigate	377	+1	...	5.3	12.4
437	340½	Utd Biscuits	372	-1	...	5.1	23.0
24½	18½	Usborne	23	...	...	3.0	∞
337	248	Watson & Phil	301	...	13.2	5.5	15.7

HOTELS, CATERERS

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
26	12	Abrdn Stk H	26				
93½	77	City Centre Rest	91½	...	1.5	2.1	22.1
250	170	Forte	221½	-½	...	4.2	17.4
215	148	Friendly Hotels	154	...	...	4.6	30.0
11½	5	Harmony Leis	10				
135½	87	Jurys Hotel	128	...	...	5.0	10.2
222½	154	Ladbroke	173	-3	11.1	8.1	14.8
78	59	Mandarin Ornl	78	+2	...	4.3	19.3
59	44	Queens Moat	47½				
99	83	-do- 7½% cvpr	85	...	7.5	11.0	
2½	½	Regal Hotels	1½				
55	28	Resort Hotels	45	...	3.4	9.6	8.8
24	11½	Ryan Hotels E	18½	...	...	6.4	
855	700	Savoy Hotel 'A'	800	...	7.0	1.1	
66	34½	Stakis	63	...	...	0.9	

ELECTRICALS

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
187	134	ACT Group	160	-5	...	3.9	16.1
253	223	Acal	253	...	...	3.1	17.6
162½	36	Acorn Compa	96	...	...	...	48.7
490	385	Admiral	460	...	5.7	1.5	19.5
170	104	Alba	163	...	...	3.7	30.4
50	19½	Alphamerix	40				
51	22	Amstrad	48	-½	0.5	1.3	∞
128	61	App Holo	71				
43	9½	Arlen	38	-1			
88	35½	Ascc	81	...	...	0.4	
293	243	Beales Hunter	244	...	...	4.8	15.1
9	2	Bennett & Fount	2½				
446	319	BICC	409	+9	19.2	5.9	
558	422	Blick	435	...	...	2.9	17.4
1700	925	Borland	1125	-25			
371	274	Bowthorpe	356	...	6.4	2.3	23.1
474	376	BT	462	-2	...	4.2	21.8
224	150	BT P/P	213	+1	...	4.1	22.3
14½	5½	Bulgin (AF) 'A'	13½	-½	0.1	0.9	
160	95	Burnfield	95	...	5.7	7.6	15.0
502	334½	Cable Wireless	501	+8	...	1.9	26.2
27½	11½	Chloride	24½	-½			
273	229	CML Micro	268	...	...	2.2	19.5
115	74	Comptr People	110				
164	108½	Cray Elect	143½	...	...	1.3	16.7
433	243	Critchley	424	-3	...	1.4	24.4
554	414	Delta	490	-1	...	3.6	20.5
360	205	Denmans El	359	...	...	2.2	15.3
630	395	Domino	434	...	7.4	2.1	14.8
65	48	Dowding Mills	62	...	...	5.0	26.6
1175	865	Druck	1175	...	10.0	1.1	25.1
469	358	Electrocompnts	441	...	...	2.2	18.0
653	470	El Data Prc	628	...	5.1	1.0	17.2
146	43	Electron House	144	-1	2.6	2.3	31.6
30	10½	Emess	21	...	0.1	0.6	
631	442	Eurotherm	631	+6	8.5	1.7	28.7
181	108	FKI	181	...	...	2.1	26.5
496	340	Farnell Elect	494	+3	...	1.7	26.0
91	33	Feedback	83	...	...	2.3	10.8
18	½	Ferranti	15	-½			
280	101	First Tech	279	...	...	0.4	23.2
270	81	Forward Gp	252	-5	...	1.6	22.8
22½	16	Forward Tech	16	-1			
367½	264	GEC	352	+2	10.3	3.7	17.7
199	132	Graseby	165	-1	...	8.3	34.7
14½	7½	Graystone	11½	+½			
39	36	Hilctare	36	...	...	1.7	
169	83	INSTEM	135	...	...	2.9	9.7
169	118	Ind Control	155	...	4.4	3.5	∞
388	320	Jones Stroud	388	...	...	2.8	15.6
88	26	Kalamazoo	86	-1	2.1	3.1	20.0
19	8	Kembrey	13½	...	0.1	1.4	
348	260	Kenwood App	348	+2	...	2.8	19.5
253	47	Kewill Sys	253				
209	100	Kode	165	...	6.0	4.5	19.6
60	16	Laser-Scan	28				
365	122	LBMS	252	-2	...	0.4	35.5
300	205	Lec Refrig	233	...	9.0	4.8	
179	129	Life Sciences	141	+1½	3.7	3.3	15.3
285	164	Logica	279	...	...	1.8	22.2
55	44	LPA Ind	54	...	...	6.1	15.2
229	162	MB Data Mngmt	188	-1	5.1	3.5	∞
718	523	Macro 4	699	+1	...	3.2	21.2
243	175½	Meavier-Sw	235	-4	...	2.0	20.8
3013	1298	Micro Focus	1540	-5			
227	147	Microgen	159	-1	7.2	5.7	10.8
34½	23½	Microvitec	27½	-2			
529	357	Misys	527	+7	...	1.7	19.2
584	98	Mitel	487	-2			
138	108	MMT Compa	127½	-1½	...	3.6	16.2
50½	16	Molynx	43	-½	...	1.3	
272	202	MTL Inst	255	...	...	1.8	19.2
165	103	Multitone Elect	115	+2	3.5	3.8	20.9
240	116	Murray Enter	240	+1	...	2.1	
3206½	2612½	NYNEX	2862½	-50			
188	128	Neotronics	131	...	2.6	2.5	16.9
65	42	Newmark (L)	56				
277	58	Norbain	255	-1	...	0.7	19.6
75	20	Northamber	61	...	0.6	1.2	
15½	9	Oceonics	10½	-½			
287	195	Oxford Inst	287	+3	4.5	2.0	19.8
83	48	P-E Internl	73				
81½	29	P & P	69	...	...	1.5	2.7
80	55	Peek	77	...	3.4	5.6	19.8
227	115	Pegasus	219	...	...	3.6	56.2
9500	9000	Philips Fn 4%	9500	...	...	6.1	
1400	725	-do- Lmp nv	1400	+12½			
313	211	Phonelink	280				
290	171½	Pifco	285	...	...	1.8	23.9
280	151½	-do- 'A' Voting	274	...	...	1.9	23.0
96	63	Plasmec	75	...	...	5.0	6.3
120	76	Pressac	110	...	2.5	3.0	∞
154	81	Psion	154	...	...	2.0	40.9
261	160	Racal Elect	205	-7	4.2	2.6	12.2
70	45	Radamec	53	-2	...	3.6	11.2
70	31	Radius	35	...	2.2	8.0	12.1
92	61	Real Time	68	+2	...	5.5	14.0
35	18	Riva	27	...	...	...	34.2
639	367	Sage Gp	432	...	4.3	2.7	13.8
348	222	Sanderson Elec	312	...	9.9	4.0	13.3
88	49	Scantronic	75	-1	3.1	5.2	18.9
181	117	Scholes Grp	172	...	...	3.6	22.3
375	270	Sema Gp	323	...	2.9	1.1	26.2
42	26	Silvermines	39	...	...	3.0	
51	37	Soundtracks	51	...	...	5.6	17.2
2625	1737½	TDK	2350	-12½	...	1.3	26.6
27	4½	TDS Circuits	14				
198	80	Telemetrix	156	...	0.8	0.6	25.7
1017	809	THORN EMI	951	+13	...	4.2	19.4
152	96	Thorpe FW	150	...	...	2.2	17.5
103	47	Total Systems	47	-5	3.0	8.0	8.3
535	372	Tunstall	535	...	5.7	1.3	21.4
295	164	Unitech	295	+1	...	2.6	69.9
11½	6	Verity	10				
35	24	Vistec	28½	...	...	1.6	16.3
585	367	Vodafone	553	+8	...	1.6	25.1
473	368	Volex	445	...	17.8	5.0	18.3
26	11	Western Selectn	20	-1			
290	223	Wholesale Ftgs	270	+2	11.7	5.4	28.7

ELECTRICITY

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
607	389	East Midlands	588	-6	...	4.1	11.0
622	399	Eastern Elect	613	-4	...	3.9	12.2
419	304	Hydro-Elect	411	+1	...	3.5	14.9
618	404	London Elect	607	-4	...	4.0	13.5
673	458	Manweb	667	-2	...	3.9	9.6
643	434½	Midlands Elec	630	-5	...	4.0	11.3
421	273	National Powr	417	-½	...	3.2	12.4
666	440	Northern Elec	651	-6	...	4.1	9.4
206	100	Nthn Ireland	204	...	...	3.9	10.9
672	439	Norweb	655	-9	20.0	3.8	10.1
469½	273	PowerGen	462	+2	...	2.8	12.2
418	285	Scottish Power	416	+1½	...	3.4	15.4
681	436	Seeboard	669	-3	...	3.7	10.8
681	469	Sth Wales	671	-7	...	4.2	11.2
626	426	Sth Western	621	-2	...	4.0	9.9
642	406	Southern Elec	624	-½	...	3.9	11.4
647	455	Yorkshire Elec	640	...	...	4.0	12.1

FINANCE, LAND

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
60½	50	Aitken Hume	56	...	1.0	2.2	11.9
128	47	BWD	128	+4	...	3.3	20.0
101	26	Bayic Plc	101	...	...	1.2	

INDUSTRIALS

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
218	19	AAF Inds	34	+3	...	...	2.1
616	455	AAH	515	+1	...	4.2	16.5
185	140	AIM	185	...	7.5	5.1	11.2
132	88	APV	104	...	...	6.5	
238	81	ASW	188	...	...	4.0	
189½	118	Adwest	177	...	...	5.1	17.0
29	10	Aerospace Eng	20	...	...	4.7	26.3
281	249	Airsprung	275	...	...	2.0	17.6
184	113	Alendra W	184	+2	4.1	2.8	28.8
13½	6½	Allied Radio	8½				
292½	207½	Alumasc	283	...	...	2.6	16.7
42	17	Alvis	40	...	1.0	3.1	8.2
565	345	Amber Ind	565	...	...	4.1	12.9
56	46	Amberley Gp	50	+4	...	2.5	
107	75	Anagen	82				
145	75	Andrews Sykes	86	...	...	6.4	
1005	703	Anoglasta	980	+2	...	2.1	18.0
54½	37	Armour	50½	...	...	4.2	11.7
170	143	Ash & Lacy	150	+2	6.4	5.3	15.3
4	2½	Ass Br Eng	3½	...	...	1.8	
541½	434	Avon Rubber	520	...	...	4.0	20.7
265	168	Assoc Nursg	265	...	...	0.5	16.2
687½	523	Atlas Equip	525	...	...	5.2	13.2
68	35	Ayrshire Metal	63				
188	147	BBA	188	+4	...	5.0	16.0
81	28	BLP Group	81				
77	13	BM Gp	23	...	3.4	18.5	1.0
770	622	BOC	658	-2	23.8	4.5	14.4
79½	62	BSG	70½	...	...	5.7	24.5
487	353	BSS Group	483	...	...	4.5	28.9
409½	318	BTR	371	+1	...	3.7	20.7
221	155	BWI	160	-1	6.7	3.1	∞
50	29	Babcock	35	...	...	7.5	20.9
9	4½	Bailey (CH)	7½				
289	240	Baird (Wm)	273	...	8.9	4.1	18.7
1062½	550	Barlow Rand	643½	-6½	...	3.2	3.7
65	48	Baynes (Charles)	64	...	...	2.9	26.2
15	4	Beaufort	4½				
10	3½	Beckenham	3½				
34	15	Bedford (W)	32				
27½	15	Benson Group	16	...	...	2.3	12.1
707	461	Bespak	485	-3	10.0	2.6	15.2
133	73	Bibby (J)	82	...	8.9	13.6	4.8
312	129	Billam (J)	280	...	5.3	2.4	14.1
41	21½	Bilston Batsea	28				
11½	3½	Bimec Ind	4½				
218	118½	Birkby	217	...	3.5	2.0	20.6
45	32	Black Arrow	38	...	2.6	8.6	11.9
1½	½	Black & Edgtn	1½				
242	136	Black (Peter)	242	+2	3.7	1.9	21.3
562	129	Bluebird Toys	518	...	...	1.1	15.8
322	247	Bodycote	284	...	...	2.3	18.0
40	23	Bogod 'A'	28	...	0.7	3.1	10.4
563	416	Boots	519	+4	...	3.2	19.3
61	42	Booth Inds	50	...	0.7	1.8	
523	435½	Bowater	442½	+½	...	3.4	18.5
1682	1189	Bowater Inc	1326	+22			
278	199	Boxmore Intl	278	+1	...	1.7	20.8
19	12½	Brasway	15	...	...	4.3	
300	204	Brammer	296	+1	13.0	5.5	22.0
27	12	Bridgend Gp	22	...	0.4		
123	64	Bridon	119	...	...	4.2	
88	53	Bridport-Gndry	75	+2	2.5	4.2	∞
48	31	Brierley Inv	45	-1	...	7.6	∞
308	240	Br Bldg & Eng	240	...	8.0	4.3	∞
82	42	Br Bloodstock	78				
528	417	Br Polythene	463	...	...	2.8	16.6
131½	54	Br Steel	129½	-½	...	1.0	
180	80	Br Syphon	85	...	...	4.4	23.8
185	115	Br Thornton	162	-1	...	1.9	17.7
268	215	Br Vita	252	+1	7.3	3.6	15.5
15½	5½	Britton Grp	15	...	...	1.5	
788	555	Broken Hill	788	+18	...	2.2	37.2
112	78	Bromsgrve Ind	106	...	...	5.2	13.8
10½	6½	Brooke Tool	9				
73	44	Brown & Tawse	49				
132	91	Bullough	125	-1	6.0	6.1	21.4
24	11½	Business Tech	22				
28	17	CI Group	21	-1	0.5	3.5	19.8
31	11	Campbll & Arm	26	-2			
39	6½	Cannon St	31				
260	205	Cape	250	...	...	5.1	17.5
251	178	Carclo Eng	247	...	8.6	4.4	17.6
2888	2138	Carnaud Md	2313	...	...	2.7	∞
78	68	Cassidy Bros	72	...	...	4.2	11.8
213	158	Castings	213	...	4.3	2.6	15.0
71	62	Catnay Intl	65	-1			
195	113	Chamberlin Hill	178	...	6.2	4.4	11.1
753	605	Charter	744	-3	...	3.7	17.5
345	220	Chemring	310	...	...	3.4	18.7
92	45	Chieftain Gp	51	...	4.5	11.0	10.9
49	17	Chillington	40	...	0.2	0.8	
205	144	Christies Int	203	...	...	0.9	30.4
63	34	Claybithe	63	...	...	5.0	
95	68	Clayton Son	68	-5			
7	7	Co Designers	7				
400	295	Cohen (A)	363	...	3.4	1.2	
241	179	Community H	240	...	...	3.6	16.4
226	180½	Concentric	212	-3	...	3.3	17.9
288	120	Cook (Wm)	271	-3	5.0	2.3	16.4
233	182	Cookson	206	...	...	3.6	27.3
76	38	Copymore	71	...	...	1.8	21.7
238	130	Crowll Plr 'A'	147	...	...	4.8	19.9
178	92	Cosalt	131	...	8.6	8.2	19.9
224	150	Creighton Nt	200	...	...	4.6	14.3
48	27	CrestaCare	33	...	0.6	2.5	28.6
3056½	2993½	Dana	3037½	-15½			
305	78½	Danka Bs Sys	300	-1	...	0.6	28.4
243	193	David Brown	223	...	...	3.4	15.8

INSURANCE

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
1993½	1268½	Alex & Alex	1375	...	...	4.8	
2406½	1787½	Am Gen	1987½	-12½	...	3.7	
63	30	Archer (AJ)	62	...	2.7	5.4	30.2
183	133	Berry Bch Nbl	156	...	...	4.4	11.8
148	118	Bradstock	137	...	5.2	4.7	16.9
498	359½	Britannic	463	+1	...	3.1	
667	556	Com Union	651	+3	...	4.6	
1750	1225	Dom & Gen	1748	-2	...	1.6	23.1
46	18	FAI	46	+1			
741	546	Gen Accident	724	+5	26.7	4.6	
230	160	GRE	214	-1	7.1	4.2	17.8
412	293	Heath C E	408	...	...	4.9	
228	160	Hogg Gp	165	-1	8.1	6.3	14.7
215	162	HIB Group	175	...	...	5.4	17.9
543	408½	Legal & Gen	525	-2	...	4.6	31.9
1092	768	Liberty Life	1011	+3	...	10.5	19.7
468	403	Lloyds Abbey	464	...	17.3	4.7	16.7
338	253	Lloyd Thomp	301	...	6.7	2.8	18.7
388	274	Londn & Man	373	+1	14.7	4.9	27.5
443	321	Lowndes Lmb	431	...	13.5	3.9	15.5
6743½	5456½	Marsh McLn	5500	...	...	3.3	
130	76	Oriel	120	-3	...	5.3	
72	50½	PWS	70	...	4.0	7.1	10.2
373	282½	Prudential	367	...	...	4.3	24.4
1138	800	Refuge	1023	...	32.2	3.9	28.3
347	248	Royal	317	-3	...	2.6	
204	150	Sedgwick	185	+1	...	4.1	22.8
261	119	Steel Burrill	153	+1	...	9.8	9.0
89	48	Sturge Hldgs	85	-2	6.5	9.6	8.6
400	307	Sun Alliance	369	-2	14.2	4.8	
76	50	Trade Indemnty	75				
332	239	Transatlantic	316	...	12.0	4.7	28.3
773	499	Utd Friendly	638	...	15.1	3.0	27.8
242	171	Willis Corroon	212	...	...	3.9	45.6
21	13½	Windsor	19	...	...	...	14.9

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
1846	1548	Alliance	1835	...	45.5	3.1	40.2
283½	226½	Amer Trust	281½	...	5.2	2.3	58.4
426	304	Ang & O'seas	419	...	6.8	2.0	53.2
156	124	BZW Conv	150½	-1	7.8	6.5	∞
188½	133½	Bankers	185	+½	3.6	2.5	50.8
328	264	Baring Tribne	328	...	6.4	2.5	51.9
203	131	Berry Starq	203	...	2.2	1.4	66.0
110	96½	Br Assets	107	...	4.2	5.1	∞
83½	57½	Br Empire Sec	83½	+½	0.8	1.3	
30	14	-do- Wnts	30				
203	156	Br Inv	203	+1	4.5	2.8	45.7
197	130	Contl Asset	197	+1	2.4	1.5	65.5
195	143	Derby Inc	150	...	...	11.9	9.0
290	195	-do- Cap	283				
87	62	Drayton Blue	85	...	8.4	12.4	9.4
85	35	-do- Eng Intl	80	...	1.2	1.9	
133	84	-do- Far East	133	+2	0.6	0.6	
122	96	-do- Korea	119	+2	0.5	0.5	
688	570	Dunedin Inc G	681	...	...	4.7	31.3
100	85	-do- Japan	86				
55	38	-do- Warrants	42				
729	513	-do- Wwde	721	+1	9.5	1.6	74.3
292	222	Dundee & Lon	280	...	...	3.9	26.8
308	250½	Edinburgh	305½	-½	8.5	3.5	33.1
290	183	Electra Inv	289	+1	6.8	3.0	39.4
191	141	Electric Gen	188	...	3.1	2.1	58.6
114	85	English Scot	114				
310	205	European Amer	309	...	...	2.3	40.1
133	77	Finsbury 'A'	132	...	3.0	2.8	42.5
307	248	Fleming Amer	306	+1	0.8	0.3	
219	190½	-do- Claver	215	...	...	3.1	42.4
340	212	Do Contl	338	...	2.7	1.0	
202	147	-do- Entp	208	...	...	2.9	40.4
361	213	-do- F East	360	+6	1.1	0.4	
328	246	-do- Fledg	328	...	3.0	1.1	
118	93	-do- Hi Inc	104	-1	...	5.3	17.8
280	136	-do- Japan	223	-3	0.4	0.3	∞
291	250	-do- Merc	280	+1	6.7	2.9	62.1
307	212	-do- Oseas	302	-1	4.2	1.7	63.2
273	203	Foreign & Col	267	-1	...	1.6	72.7
121	58½	-do- Emg Mkts	118	...	0.2	0.3	
67	44	-do- Enterprise	67	...	0.4	0.8	
233	164	-do- Eurotst	231	+1	1.2	0.7	
131	87	-do- German	130	+1	0.5	0.5	
319	191	-do- Pacific	318	+5	...	0.8	
167½	116	-do- Smaller	167	...	1.8	1.4	
272	145	GT Japan	233	+5	...	0.7	
165	65	Genl Cons Cap	164				
123½	96½	-do- Inc	115	...	...	9.2	11.9
165	115	Govett Am Smlr	158				
116	94	-do- Emg Mkts	116	+1			
341	184	-do- Oriental	341	+5	0.9	0.3	
286	207	-do- Strategy	281	...	6.7	3.0	∞
407	340	Greenfriar	407	+2	...	2.0	61.1
19	5	Gresham House	19				
143	124	Inv Cap	141	...	5.1	4.6	∞
97	77	186 UK Smllr	92	+1	2.8	3.8	25.7
209	150½	Kleinwort Chrt	208	...	5.0	3.0	40.5
250	178	-do- O'seas	246	-1	3.3	1.7	69.9
142	108	-do- Smlr	142	...	...	3.1	34.4

LEISURE

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
455	269	Airtours	454	...	7.7	2.1	16.1
64	42	Ald Leis	54	...	3.0	6.9	∞
377	194	Anglia TV	377	+3	...	3.1	17.5
103	63	Baldwin	88	...	4.6	6.5	11.9
252	192	Barr & W 'A'	242	...	10.0	5.2	15.6
1245	930	Boosey Hwks	1145	...	22.0	2.4	17.2
153	90	Border TV	138	...	...	3.0	12.4
16½	4½	Brent Walker	5				
80	48	Bristol Scots	74				
9	2½	Buckingham Int	7½				
292	78	Campari	79	-3	8.7	13.8	
231	171	Capital Radio	231	...	5.2	2.0	26.7
818	718	Carlton Comm	767	+3	17.7	2.0	22.6
213	158	Castle Commu	211	+1	...	5.1	∞
2108	1615	Central TV	2033	-10	39.0	2.4	22.1
124	61	Chrysalis	113				
590	470	Compass Gp	565	...	...	2.9	16.9
350	175	Eurocamp	230	+2	9.7	5.3	9.5
1180	550	Euro Disney	573	+15	...	2.0	
8	3½	Euro Leisure	3½				
38½	18	Ex-Lands	35	...	...	1.3	
390	245	Fairline Boats	313	...	10.5	4.2	
378	266	First Leisure	277	-3	6.2	2.8	19.2
588	298	GWR Gp	578	...	...	1.7	29.7
246	149	Grampian	241	...	6.1	3.2	16.7
30	4½	Greenwich Comm	19				
95	19	HTV Group	86	+½	...	...	38.2
76	30	Hi-Tec Sports	64	-1	...	4.4	
12½	5½	Kunick	9½				
505	405	LWT Hldgs	473	-1	...	1.3	21.9
600	327	Man Utd	560	+1	19.5	4.4	∞
148	59	Owners Abrd	88	...	3.9	5.6	7.1
76	33	The Pelican Gp	76	+2	...	1.8	17.8
160	55	Prism Leisure	158	+2	...	2.6	14.7
42	16	Quadrant Grp	38				
327	274	Radio Clyde	322	...	...	3.3	25.2
208	132	Ramsdens (H)	199	...	...	2.8	26.4
553	410	Scot TV	428	...	10.3	3.0	21.1
65	37	Southern Radio	57	...	0.7	1.7	23.7
260	168	Stanley Leisure	229	...	4.3	2.4	18.1
10	5½	Sunleigh	8½				
145	115	Sunset & Vine	130	...	3.5	3.4	∞
420	345½	Tanjong	345½	...	...	0.5	18.9
2½	1	Tickering	2½				
117	84	Tottenhm Hot	108				
78	44	Trans World	59	...	...	1.7	21.5
499	274	Ulster TV	475	...	12.0	3.2	14.6
109	62	Vardon	105	...	0.8	1.0	24.8
22	11	Wembley	18				
48	7½	Whitegate	44	-1			
234	110	Yorkshire TV	182	-1	12.0	8.2	5.5
120	83	Zetters Gp	116	...	8.0	8.6	13.1

MINING

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
5700	1800	Am Gold	5212½	+12½	...	4.2	26.4
1625	1018½	Ang Am Coal	1600	+12½	...	5.6	8.5
2300	1125	Ang Am	2212½	...	...	3.1	19.3
33	8½	Anglo Pac Res	30½				
138	35	Blyvoors	135				
46	18	Bracken	46	...	...	...	∞
871	233	Buffels	723	+4	...	8.8	6.5
2½	1	Bute	2				
726	548	CRA	726	+22	...	2.8	24.9
43½	11	Cliff Res	27	-2			
1405½	762½	De Beers	1337½	-15½	...	3.6	18.4
165	37½	Deelkraal	118	...	...	1.7	13.6
96	7	Doornfontein	69	-½			
913	388	Driefontein	782	-17	...	3.7	15.5
709	120	Durban	586	-4			
201	47	E Rand Gold	143	-11	...	7.5	4.5
270	54	E Rand Prop	143	-52			
65	16	Eastern Trans	55				
604	117	Elandsrand	462	+5	...	4.3	11.8
939	292	FS Cons	933	-6	...	2.6	11.4
80	8	FS Dev	62	...	...	5.1	12.2
1675	725	GFSA	1398	-20	...	2.8	24.2
180	125	Gencor	151	-1	...	6.0	∞
64½	35½	GM Kalgoorli	48½	...	...	2.7	19.8
22½	5	Greenwich R 'A'	15½	-½			
187	49	Grootvlei	121	-14	...	8.4	7.5
360	78	Harmony	316	-2			
425	87	Hartles	353	-6	...	5.4	14.0
16	8½	Inoco	15½				
1010	491	Impala Plat	739	-4	...	3.8	25.4
13½	6	Kenmare Res	9½				
1080	332	Kinross	975	-15	...	6.0	∞
913	319	Kloof	677	-8	...	3.2	9.5
137	25	Leslie	113	+3	...	9.6	∞
238	13	Loraine	225	+5			
950	620	Lydenburg	950	...	...	2.1	∞
116½	80	MIM	92½	+1½	...	2.4	44.9
1266	820	Minorco	1209	-13	...	3.2	14.3
141	91	Nth Bdtn Hill	138½	+2½	...	3.5	22.8
2525	612½	Orange Free	2375	-9½	...	5.3	19.3
746	607	RTZ	683	...	...	5.0	18.9
637½	425	Rand Mines	568½	...	...	7.6	∞
671	150	Randfontein	585	-3	...	4.8	8.7
192	115	Renison	172	+7	...	2.5	17.8
1200	850	Rustnbrg	1062½	...	...	3.1	∞
630	191	St Helena	630	+7	...	3.8	13.4
2168	475	Southvaal	1960	-10	...	2.9	35.8
119	18	Stilfontein	74	...	...	8.4	13.4
201	58	Unisel	113	-4	...	6.0	∞
6075	1800	Vaal Reefs	5700	-37½	...	3.8	10.3
625	154	Welkom	614	-9	...	5.3	19.3
575	26	Western Areas	575	+24	...	0.8	18.4
2525	587½	Western Deep	2512½	-12½	...	2.4	12.2
283	176	Wstn Mining	248	+8	...	1.9	∞
1029	323	Winkels	857	-6	...	4.5	∞
84	56	Zambia Copper	66				
66	18	Zandpan	54	-1	...	5.6	18.3

MOTORS, AIRCRAFT

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
258	233	Abbey Panels	238				
135	95	Airflow Stream	125	...	3.0	3.0	11.9
153	78	Appleyard	132	...	...	4.9	
335	203	Bletchley Mtr	305	...	...	3.8	15.5
192	120	Bostrom	190	...	6.0	3.9	33.6
468	165	Br Aerospace	426	+9	7.3	2.1	
52	19½	Burndene	48	...	...	3.0	12.8
388	303	Caffyns	378	...	11.5	3.8	76.5
15	4½	Caverdale	14	-½			
143	98	Central Mtr	134	...	...	3.7	34.1
29	18	Cook (DC)	24	-1	...	3.1	13.6
287	156	Cowie (T)	248	-1	6.6	3.3	18.9
141	86	Dag Motors	137	...	5.7	5.2	24.8
155	102½	Davnprt Vern	152	...	...	3.3	19.2
330	155	ERF	325	-1	2.0	0.8	
145	92	European Mtr	136	+5	...	3.2	19.1
404	208	Evans Halshaw	403	...	11.4	3.6	62.1
290	223	FR Group	233	...	...	3.9	10.7
4225	2843½	Ford Motor	4225	+150			
3312½	2143½	General Mtr	3293½	+131½	...	1.6	
75	38	Gowrings	56	...	2.0	4.5	
247	85	Henlys	233	...	3.5	1.9	
1024	650	Honda Motor	986	+8	...	0.8	
31	15	Jacks (Wm)	30				
108	66	Jessups	99	...	4.5	5.7	
176	97	Kwik-Fit	176	...	...	2.5	24.9
420	281	Lex Service	390	+1	...	3.6	21.3
164	85	Lookers	150	...	6.2	5.2	
175	126	Lucas	169	...	...	5.2	
27	21	Malaga Grp	27	+1			
284	224½	Pendragon	258	...	...	3.1	21.2
190	101½	Perry Gp	170	...	...	5.2	
190	108	Quicks Group	166	...	...	3.6	21.2
160	96½	Rolls-Royce	153	+2½	...	4.1	
223	164	T & N	180	-2	...	7.5	25.6
256	163	Trinity Hldgs	255	+8	...	2.7	23.7
175	125	Vardy (Reg)	172	...	...	3.1	24.0
253	121	Westland	220	+2	4.2	2.4	19.5

NEWS, PUBLISHERS

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
193	103	Adscene	190	...	5.0	3.3	19.4
360	315	Black (A&C)	350	...	13.5	4.8	14.4
608	280	Blenheim Gp	362	+2	...	3.2	13.5
370	275	Bristol	349	...	...	4.2	31.5
£102	7775	Daily Mail	9425	+50	134	1.8	21.2
£101½	7700	Daily Mail 'A'	9375	+100	134	1.8	21.1
355	251	Dorling Kind	349	...	3.3	1.2	∞
373	322	EMAP	339	...	...	2.9	20.9
1138	873	Euromoney Pb	1138	...	32.0	3.5	25.6
264	170	Harrington K	222	-2	4.7	2.6	18.1
466	233	Haynes Pub	458	...	...	2.2	17.2
363	343	Hodder H'line	358	...	5.1	1.8	30.5
140	99	Home Counts	115	...	5.2	5.7	
151	30	Intl Bus Comm	138	-1	...	...	30.0
14	6½	Int Cm & Data	12				
395	240	Independent	380	...	...	3.3	20.5
580	395	Johnstone Press	570	-1	6.5	1.4	24.7
323	243	Metal Bulletn	323	...	8.2	3.2	22.8
186	88	Mirror Gp	161	-2			
515	287	News Corp	511	...	...	0.3	
301	169	News Intl	295	...	...	0.6	18.1
577	354	Pearson	563	...	...	2.7	30.6
675	510	Portsmth Sund	608	...	...	1.9	16.8
777	618	Reed Int	777	+9	...	2.8	33.9
161	98	Southnews	161	+8	...	1.6	29.8
171	90	Sterling Pub	167	...	...	2.2	18.4
423	328	Telegraph	382	...	...	3.9	16.0
825	715	Thomson Corp	805	...	...	1.9	40.3
395	313	Trinity Ind	353	-2	9.0	3.2	21.2
39	22	Unit Group	29				
593½	480½	Utd Nwspapr	542	-2	...	5.0	15.1

OILS, GAS

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
37	17	Aran Energy	33½	...	...	...	32.6
61	37	Arcon Intl	39				
71	41½	Aus Oil & Gas	65	+½			
83	26	Aviva Pet	73	-2			
16	9	Beverley	10				
217	145	Br Borneo	213	...	...	7.1	4.2
348	276	British Gas	345½	+6½	14.2	5.1	16.7
349½	225	Br Petroleum	349½	+4	8.4	3.0	27.5
1½	1	Bula Resources	1½				
821	675	Burmah Castl	775	+1	...	5.3	18.1
69	32	Cairn Energy	61	...	...	...	8.7
297	223	Calor Gp	286	...	...	5.2	15.8
60½	32½	Clyde Pet	48				
44	27	Copley Res	39	+2			
25½	10½	Edin Oil & Gs	17				
521	397	Enterprise	484	+4	19.0	4.9	26.6
88	32	Exp Co Louis	36				
34½	18½	Fairhaven Intl	24	-½	...	2.2	8.7
10½	4	Fortune	4½				
67	45	Goal Pet	63	-1	1.4	2.8	12.1
48	18	Gt Western Res	42				
181	104½	Hardy O & G	172	-2	...	0.7	16.0
46	18½	Kelt Energy	41				

PAPER, PRINT, ADVTG

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
144	120	AG Holdings	144	...	...	4.6	13.6
352	249	API	352	+1	8.2	2.9	30.7
229	144	Arjo Wiggins	225	+1	...	3.6	36.3
543	408	Abbott Mead	540	...	9.5	2.2	28.4
40	13	Aegis Gp	21				
212	118	Aspen Comms	129	...	...	4.7	11.7
15½	7	BBB Design	15½	+½			
409	234½	Bemrose	389	...	...	3.8	17.0
30½	8	Birkdale	8	-1			
155	118	Bunzl	142	...	4.0	3.5	21.4
344	257	CIA Gp	344	+1	...	1.6	21.7
230	93	Capital Inds	177	+2	...	3.5	16.9
79	44	Clay of Lon	76	...	...	6.3	14.0
292	169	Cropper (Jmes)	292	...	3.1	1.3	28.2
6	6	Crown Comm	6				
95	51	Delyn Group	88	...	1.6	2.4	11.5
120	94	Dolphin Pack	118	...	4.5	4.8	29.1
82	42	Dudley Jenkins	75	...	...	5.2	17.1
15½	11	Elswick	11	-½	...	3.4	12.3
73	41	Fairway Groups	65	...	3.2	6.3	19.2
346	271	Ferguson Intl	346	...	...	4.6	15.5
110	92	Ferry Pick	110	...	...	6.4	29.7
152	74	Filofax	145	...	...	1.1	18.7
20	11	Finch	13½	-½			
130	69	Gibbon Lyons	129	...	...	4.8	14.6
295	208	Gold Greenless	208	...	8.3	5.0	14.8
41	19	Goodhead	19	-1	0.5	3.3	
88	35	Hunterprint	37				
185	136	Interexope	170	...	...	5.7	12.5
271	191	Jarvis Porter	270	...	...	2.2	25.2
32	15½	Lopex	25				
38½	26	MMI	35				
344	175	More O'Ferrall	344	...	13.2	4.8	41.2
133	48	NMC Group	109	-1	2.0	2.3	16.8
173	66	Osborne & Little	172	...	...	3.3	18.9
525	455	Portals	501	...	...	3.7	17.1
3½	½	Premier Hlth	2½	-½			
286	159	Quarto	283	...	...	2.5	17.4
347	287	St Ives Gp	289	-1	5.5	2.4	∞
186	142½	Saatchi	184				
474	292	Sappi	327	-7	...	10.0	6.2
32	11½	Serif	28½	-½			
32½	14	Shandwick	25	+2			
397	294	Smith David	353	-1	...	3.5	18.5
295	206	Smurfit (Jeff)	226	+5	...	1.9	5.4
70	45	Sonic	66	...	1.5	2.8	27.1
246	183	Sta-Plus	211	...	5.4	5.0	18.8
28½	16½	Taylor Nelson	28½	...	0.3	1.5	23.6
83	38	VTR	82	...	...	5.2	23.4
106	40	WPP	99	-1	...	1.3	3.7
179	62	Wace	177	...	...	0.7	
265	203	Waddington (J)	258	...	...	3.8	19.3
410	270	Watmough	408	...	...	1.8	32.0
7	4½	Westport	5				
34	12	Whinney Mck	19				
87	55	Wood (SW)	78	...	...	2.0	16.7

PROPERTY

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
116	41	Allied Lon	113	-1	...	4.0	28.6
63	58	Arcadian	60				
16½	4½	Ascot Hldgs	4½				
132	52	Asda	132	+2	...	2.0	13.9
152	88	Avonside	143	...	4.1	3.6	20.0
2637½	2062½	BCE	2362½				
670	396	Bilton	670	+6	18.9	3.5	24.2
110	23	Bourne End	97	...	1.0	1.3	
236	150	Bradford	235	...	5.8	3.2	23.5
23	5	Bredero	16				
427	166½	Br Land	401	-3	...	2.2	36.5
248	140½	Brixton	239	-5	...	4.4	18.9
88	42	Burford	88	+1	...	1.8	
187	99	Cap & Regnl	184	...	...	0.9	
230	120	Cardiff Prop	230	...	2.4	1.3	
583	196	Chesterfield	383	-9	11.5	2.5	41.4
43	12	City Site Ests	38				
28	12	Clarke Nickolls	27				
548	300	Compco	300	...	12.9	5.6	65.2
53	34	Conrad Ritbit GS	45				
1348	818	Daejan	1348	+15	...	2.5	16.6
3½	1½	Dares Estates	2				
129	53	Debenhm Twsn	112	...	...	3.3	21.8
12	4	De Morgan	8				
177½	76	Dencora	177½	+½	3.0	2.1	
635	263	Derwent Hldgs	633	...	8.7	1.7	78.9
45	10	Development Sec	39	-½			
58	25	Dwyer	57				
381	170	Estates Agency	380	-1	1.0	0.3	34.8
27	7½	Estates Gen	21				
215	132	Evans Of Leeds	213	...	...	2.7	18.8
35½	11	Five Oaks	34				
64	30	Fletcher King	63	...	1.0	2.0	41.7
487	276½	Frogmore	486	...	...	4.1	23.4
200	97	Grainger	193	...	5.2	3.4	43.1
233	116½	Gt Portland	228	+3	...	4.4	21.8
33	7½	Greycoat	27				
181	101	HK Land	181	+3	...	3.5	23.8
84	35	Hambro Cntyw	73	...	0.5	0.9	
427	257½	Hammerson	410	-13	10.0	3.0	41.5
663	245	-do- 'A'	369	-9	10.0	3.4	37.3
278	127	Helical Bar	278	+1	...	2.2	10.0
37	19	Hemingway	36				
132	58	Herring Baker	61	...	3.7	7.7	15.3
153	133	Jermyn	138				
740	435	Land Sec	737	-2	22.8	3.9	22.3
111	73	Lon Merch Sec	109	...	4.0	4.6	16.9
4½	1½	Lon & Metro	3½				
537	315½	MEPC	536	+2	...	4.7	23.1
9	5	McInerney A	7½				
145	90	McKay Secs	145	...	3.5	3.0	19.9
7½	3	Markheath	4½	-½			
74	12	Merivale Mre	69	-5			
5	5	Merlin Intl	5				
48	29	Moorfield Est	46				
1300	775	Mountview	1300	...	20.0	2.1	11.9
169	112	Mucklow (A&J)	169	+1½	...	4.6	25.8
46	30	Olives Prop	37				
10½	3½	Ossory Est	5	...	...	...	1.5
172	88	PSIT	168	...	4.1	3.1	33.3
351	138	Peel	350	...	4.0	1.4	
16	5	Power Corp	6	+½			
48	22	Property Trust	37	...	...	...	10.6
75	42	Raglan	43				
29	11	Regalian	22½				
135	110	Rowlinson Secs	125	...	1.5	1.5	33.2
50	16	St Modwen Prp	48	-1	0.9	2.3	36.6
76	39	Savills	74	+½	...	1.7	29.3
113	34	Scot Met	107	-2	1.5	1.8	
116	39	Shaftesbury	115				
15½	5	Shield	11	...	...	...	5.8
272	139½	Slough Estates	259	...	...	3.9	18.1
85	36	Southend Prop	85	...	...	3.5	
39	16	Stanhope Prps	36	-1			
224	114	Tops Ests	223	...	...	2.1	79.5
137	79	Town Centre	135	...	3.4	3.2	∞
93	43	Trafford Park	89	...	...	3.9	20.5
56	17	UK Land	32				
12	4	Union Square	8				
268	180	Warner	267	...	10.4	4.9	24.4
218	168	Warnford	217	...	7.5	4.3	15.9
8	2	Waterglade	2½				
91	34	Wates	91				
76	40	Wood John D	72	-1			

SHOES, LEATHER

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
18	11	Automagic	13				
183	84	Headlam	178	...	...	2.1	40.2
500	315	Lambert	355	...	13.2	4.7	8.7
100	44	Pittards	57	...	1.5	3.3	16.3
30	20	Strong & Fisher	23	...	1.0	5.4	6.4
210	89	Stylo	210	...	...	1.8	
66	53	UK Safety	64	...	...	5.2	2.1

TEXTILES

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
516	408	Allied Text	503	+5	12.7	3.2	16.2
69	54	Beckman (A)	58	...	3.5	7.7	∞
41	21	Bolton Gp	33				
170	141	Br Mohair	165	...	8.3	6.4	15.5
53	15	Charnwell	40				
364	298	Claremont Ga	347	...	7.5	2.7	21.7
601	522	Courtauld Text	570	+1	13.9	3.0	15.6
53½	24½	Cupid	28				
248½	188	Dawson	192	...	...	5.9	14.6
47	22	Drummond	41				
82	65	Faupel	82	...	...	7.5	12.7
34	15	Foster (John)	19				
133	82	Gaskell	119	-2	4.2	4.5	
223	156	Hicking Pntcst	220	...	...	2.3	17.1
90	45	Jerome (S)	63	...	...	0.4	
417	249	Lamont	417	...	12.0	3.6	27.3
515	353½	Leeds	500	...	...	1.9	24.1
64	15	Lister	59	...	0.1	0.2	
122	73	Lyles (S)	85	...	...	4.9	
209	89	Magellan	209	+1	1.4	0.8	
234	69	Parkland 'A'	218	-5	3.0	1.7	
102½	82	Readicut	100	...	...	4.3	18.8
66	35	SEET	59	+2			
147	72	Stirling	137	...	...	4.9	9.5
72	44	Stirling Gp	70	...	1.8	3.3	17.1
51	37	Stoddard	44	+1	...	4.3	40.9
312	250	Tomkinsons	297	-1	11.9	4.8	25.6
62½	32½	West Trust	34	-1	2.5	9.2	∞
217	126	Yorklyde	217	...	...	3.1	14.1

TOBACCOS

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
507	407	BAT	499	+10	...	4.8	14.9

TRANSPORT

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
517	349	Assoc Br Ports	503	-9½	...	2.2	
898	707	BAA	871	+1	...	2.3	21.6
386	249	Br Airways	378	+5	...	3.5	18.2
110	56	Clarkson (H)	100	...	1.7	2.2	
23	23	Davies Newman	23				
515	332	Eurotunnel Uts	466	+4			
82	44	Fisher (James)	80	...	1.0	1.6	21.5
211	147	IoM Steam	206	...	...	5.1	10.8
38	24	Jacobs (JI)	36	...	0.5	1.7	
101	41	Lon O'Seas Frs	95	...	...	1.4	17.4
400	264	Mersey Docks	398	...	...	2.8	27.1
271	181	Natl Express	257	+2	...	3.5	36.6
284	230	NFC	278	-1	6.5	2.9	21.1
343	244	Ocean Group	338	...	...	5.3	
73	40	Ocean Wilson	67	-2	4.0	7.6	12.0
676	504	P & O Dfd	584	-2	...	6.8	30.6
194	127	P & O 5 1/2%	189	+1	...	3.6	
621	448	Powell Duffryn	621	+11	...	4.5	24.1
225	117	Seacon	225	...	...	3.0	14.2
163	112	Stagecoach	153	...	...	3.1	∞
77	31½	TNT	77	+2½			
773	624	Tibbet & Britn	728	+3	12.6	2.2	27.9
382	100	Tiphook	110	-3	...	21.9	
298	227	TDG	273	-1	...	4.3	9.0

WATER

1993 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
565	455	Anglian Water	521	-11	...	5.1	10.6
347	244	Mid Kent Hdgs	347	...	...	3.8	12.8
688	547	Northumbrian	673	-4	...	4.2	6.9
567	431½	North West	530	-10	...	5.0	9.5
578	439	Severn Trent	542	-2	...	4.9	8.7
617	454	Sthrn Water	574	+13	...	4.6	9.6
1605	1225	Sth Staffs	1515	...	47.0	3.9	10.8
622	465	South West	580	-7	...	5.1	9.3
584	454	Thames Water	544	-4	...	5.0	10.5
671	506	Welsh Water	658	-7	...	4.5	6.6
683	536	Wessex Water	637	-8	...	4.2	9.6
593	473½	Yorkshire W	553	-8	...	4.8	9.4

BRITISH FUNDS

SHORTS (under 5 years)

1993 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
102	100	Treas 8½% 1994	100	...	8.43	5.42
109½	103½	Treas 14½% 1994	103	-⅛	14.07	5.36
109	103	Exch 13½% 1994	103	-⅛	12.98	5.27
105	102	Treas 10% 1994	102	...	9.73	5.29
110	105	Exch 12½% 1994	105	-⅛	11.83	5.25
105	103½	Treas 9% 1994	103	...	8.67	5.27
111	107½	Treas 12% 1995	107	...	11.12	5.29
97½	94	Gas 3% 1990-95	97	...	3.07	4.57
109	107	Exch 10½% 1995	107	-⅛	9.50	5.38
116½	113½	Treas 12¾% 1995	113	...	11.19	5.44
120	117	Treas 14% 1996	117	...	11.93	5.55
125½	121½	Treas 15¼% 1996	122	...	12.48	5.64
120	115½	Exch 13¼% 1996	117½	...	11.25	5.68
112	108	Conv 10% 1996	111½	...	8.97	5.83
127	118	Treas 13¼% 1997	120	-⅛	10.96	5.99
114	110	Exch 10½% 1997	113	+⅛	9.26	5.96
109	105	Treas 8¾% 1997	109	...	8.01	6.03
132	127	Exch 15% 1997	130½	-⅛	11.49	6.24
113	109	Exch 9¾% 1998	112	...	8.65	6.24
104	99	Treas 7¼% 1998	104	...	6.96	6.16
104	101	Treas 7¼% B 1998	104	...	6.96	6.18
101	97	Treas 6¾% 1995-98	101½	+⅛	6.64	5.57
130	125	Treas 14% 1998-01	129½	...	10.83	6.50

MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)

1993 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
138	133	Treas 15½% 1998	137½	-⅛	11.24	6.39
124½	118½	Exch 12% 1998	123½	-⅛	9.73	6.50
114½	108½	Treas 9½% 1999	113½	-⅛	8.39	6.45
126½	120	Exch 12¼% 1999	125½	...	9.76	6.56
119	112	Treas 10½% 1999	118½	-⅛	8.87	6.51
119	112½	Conv 10¼% 1999	118	+⅛	8.66	6.55
113	106	Conv 9% 2000	112½	-⅛	7.99	6.53
133½	125½	Treas 13% 2000	132½	-⅛	9.78	6.78
119	109	Treas 10% 2001	118	-⅛	8.46	6.79
119	108½	Treas 9¾% 2002	118	-⅛	8.26	6.92
109	97½	Treas 8% 2003	108	-⅛	7.41	6.83
122	109	Treas 10% 2003	121½	-⅛	8.25	6.97
126½	116½	Treas 11½% 2001-04	125½	-⅛	9.19	7.05
81	67	Fund 3½% 1999-04	80½	-⅛	4.36	6.00
120	105	Conv 9½% 2004	118	-⅛	8.01	7.09
120	105½	Conv 9½% 2005	118	-⅛	8.00	7.06
138	124	Treas 12½% 2003-05	136	-⅛	9.14	7.28
107	94	Treas 8% 2002-06	106	-⅛	7.55	7.05
131	118	Treas 11¾% 2003-07	129½	-⅛	9.05	7.24
112	97	Treas 8½% 2007	111½	-⅛	7.63	7.16
146	131	Treas 13½% 2004-08	144	-⅛	9.32	7.27

LONGS (over 15 years)

1993 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
117½	101½	Treas 9% 2008	116	-⅛	7.73	7.18
108½	92	Treas 8% 2009	107	+⅛	7.46	7.20
118½	100½	Conv 9% 2011	117	-⅛	7.66	7.22
119	100	Treas 9% 2012	118½	-⅛	7.62	7.21
87½	70½	Treas 5½% 2008-12	86	-⅛	6.35	6.80
107½	89½	Treas 7¾% 2012-15	106	-⅛	7.26	7.13
109	92	Treas 8% 2013	108	-⅛	7.38	7.19
149	125	Exch 12% 2013-17	147	-⅛	8.11	7.37
118	97	Treas 8¾% 2017	117	-⅛	7.44	7.19

UNDATED

1993 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
49	38½	War Ln 3½%	48	+⅛	7.23	...
34½	27	Treas 2½%	33½	+⅛	7.41	...

INDEX-LINKED

1993 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
139	131½	Treas IL 2% 1994	135	...	...	...
203½	194	Treas IL 2% 1996	202	+⅛	1.27	2.18
112½	105	Treas IL 4⅝% 1998	112	+⅛	1.61	2.26
172	159	Treas IL 2½% 2001	171	+⅛	2.49	2.86
169½	155	Treas IL 2½% 2003	168	+⅛	2.67	2.98
115½	105½	Treas IL 4⅝% 2004	114½	+⅛	2.73	3.02
179½	159½	Treas IL 2% 2006	178½	+⅛	2.73	2.96
163½	144	Treas IL 2½% 2009	162	+⅛	2.90	3.10
170½	148	Treas IL 2½% 2011	169	+⅛	2.95	3.14
140	122½	Treas IL 2½% 2013	139	+⅛	2.99	3.16
151½	130	Treas IL 2½% 2016	150	-⅛	3.03	3.19
146½	124	Treas IL 2½% 2020	145	-⅛	3.08	3.21
123½	105	Treas IL 2½% 2024	122	-⅛	3.07	3.19
123	105	Treas IL 4⅛% 2030	122	-⅛	3.09	3.22

Source: Finstat

♦ USM; # Price at suspension; † Ex dividend; ‡ Ex scrip; † Ex rights issue; ↓ Ex all; ‡ Ex capital distribution; ∞ Figures or report awaited; ... No significant data.

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SPORT IN BRIEF

Frank withdraws from Whitbread

NANCE Frank, the skipper of US Women's Challenge, pulled her boat out of the Whitbread Round the World yacht race yesterday after a third member of her crew decided to leave the team. Sue Crafer, the only Briton in the international crew, followed Mikaela von Koskull, the Finnish watch leader, and Adrienne Cahalan, the Australian navigator, in deciding that she was not prepared to continue under Frank's leadership.

An hour after Crafer announced her decision in Punta del Este, Uruguay, where the fleet is resting before the next stage of the race, to Fremantle, Australia, Frank withdrew the yacht. "Damage experienced during the first leg has seriously affected our competitiveness in the race," Frank said. "We feel we just don't have enough funding to continue safely. We are extremely disappointed." Other crew members are now trying to raise sponsorship in order to continue in the race under a new name and skipper.

Dangerfield defends

CYCLING: The final national championship event of the season, the 1.1-mile hill climb trial at Newlands Pass, Buttermere, tomorrow, includes last year's three medal-winners — Stuart Dangerfield, the winner, Jeff Wright and Peter Longbottom — among the 120 starters. The race should centre on Dangerfield and Wright. Each has won once in their two meetings this autumn and Dangerfield would not be drawn on the outcome tomorrow. He won the title last year on Chapel Fell by 20sec, but does not expect the margin between first and second at Buttermere to be so great. Unlike Wright, he has not examined the climb, but plans to do so today.

Grubb takes trophy

EQUESTRIANISM: Tim Grubb won the prestigious General Dwight Eisenhower Trophy for Britain at the Washington international show in the US Air Arena in Maryland on Thursday. He rode his grand prix horse, Ever Elan, with decisiveness, jumping several fences at a sharp angle, to win this speed event. It was the first time a British rider has won it in the 20 years of the show. The Nations' Cup team competition was won by Switzerland, the European champions, after a close fight with Canada. Britain were third.

English hopes improve

SQUASH: The decision by Chris Dittmar, the world No. 2, to rest an injured knee beyond next month's world championships in Karachi improves the prospects for England in a qualifying group against a weakened Australian team. However, it has done little to help the comeback plans of Jahangir Khan, the former world champion, who was due to meet Jansher Khan, his Pakistani compatriot and the current world champion. Jahangir now looks certain to face Rodney Martin, the 1991 world champion from Australia, instead.

Skiers start early

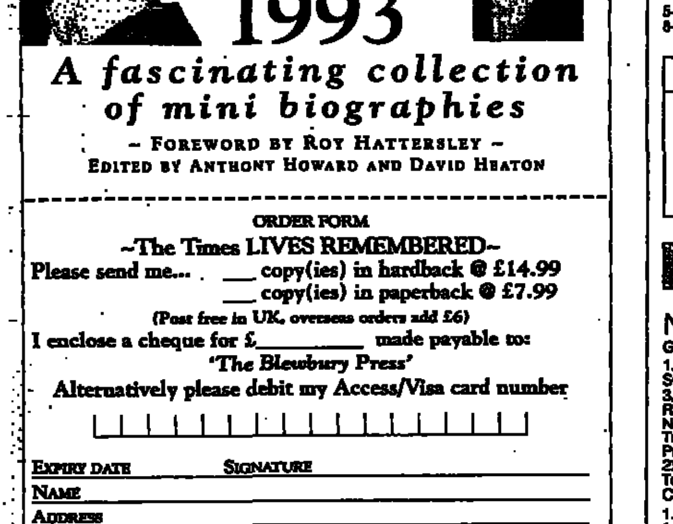
SKIING: The early start to the World Cup skiing season this weekend, on a glacier at Solden, Austria, may bring surprise results. Alberto Tomba, the Italian slalom expert, who is recovering from a knee injury, said: "This early start has probably caught most of us still in our preparation stage. I am about 70 per cent fit and, for me, the real season starts in a month's time." Dieter Bartsch, the Norway team coach, is not expecting much from his skiers, who are normally rated among the favourites. Men and women will be competing in giant slalom races.

Vatanen wins in Peking

MOTOR SPORT: Ari Vatanen, of Finland, led the Subaru Legacy team to a 1-2-3 finish yesterday in the Hong Kong to Peking rally. Colin McRae, of Britain, was second and Possum Bourne, of New Zealand, third. McRae won the final timed stage yesterday ahead of Vatanen and Bourne, but trailed 19sec behind the Finn overall as the rally finished near the Great Wall. The three men had exchanged the lead throughout the seven-day race, challenged only by Kenjiro Shinozuka, of Japan, in a Mitsubishi Lancer. Only 19 of the 32 cars that started the rally finished.

THE TIMES

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Italian rider shrugs off gruelling flight to parry Australian journalists



JAY TOWN

Brent Thomson putting Drum Taps through his paces in preparation for the Melbourne Cup

Dettori adept in role of ambassador

FROM RICHARD EVANS IN MELBOURNE

UNTIL yesterday, the unofficial role of racing ambassador within the jockeys' room had remained vacant following the retirement of Steve Cauthen last year. Not any longer.

After landing here at 5am following a gruelling 23-hour flight from England, Frankie Dettori inherited the job as he charmed a new audience with a delightful combination of controlled exuberance and youthful statesmanship.

Despite suffering from a sore throat, the jockey was at Sandown racecourse before breakfast to see Drum Taps, his ride in the Melbourne Cup on Tuesday — only to be faced by a formidable battery of Australian camera crews and reporters.

"So, you've come to steal our Cup," was the opening bouncer from a television reporter. Dettori ducked before launching his diplomatic offensive.

"We are here to compete and, of course, we are here to win, but it is a hard race. For me, almost 23, it is great to be here. It is a great experience to come to Australia and a major bonus to ride in such a prestigious race.

"I hope Drum Taps will run well because that would open the door to other horses coming here to take their chance, because we would like to see the Melbourne Cup become an international race like the Japan Cup and Breeders' Cup."

Lord Huntingdon, trainer of Drum Taps, interviewed a few yards away — "are you really related to Robin Hood?" asked one Australian journalist — could not have put it better.

It is all too easy to take Dettori's personable character for granted. Having left his native Italy as a non-English speaking 14-year-old, he has rarely strayed from the sunlit path of success and now finds himself on the higher slopes leading to fame. The courtesy and humour which underpin his lively style remain intact, although nowadays there is a wiser head on those young shoulders.

Although his body clock must have been at sixes and sevens after flying halfway round the world, Dettori smiled and charmed his way through half-a-dozen interviews before hopping into a car to return to Melbourne city centre.

At the Victoria Racing Club, he picked up his rider's licence before studying films of last year's Melbourne Cup. Already he was working out tactics, asking how Tuesday's race would be run, which horse should he follow, who was favourite. Then came the bombshell, almost a throwaway line. "I think at his best Drum Taps would have won last year's Melbourne Cup by five lengths," Dettori said.

Having written off Drum Taps and Vintage Crop as 100-1 no-hopers when it was first announced the two European-trained horses would be coming here for the Cup, there has been a dramatic change in opinion among Australian trainers and racing professionals.

Although the Victoria Derby is the feature event at Flemington today, all eyes will be on the last two races of the afternoon which sees 29 of the 39 Melbourne Cup acceptors having their last-minute preparatory race. The Mackinnon Stakes, in which Dettori rides the former John Gosden-trained Landowner, has thrown up eight out of the last nine Cup winners.

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: Dangerous Shadow (2.35 Newcastle)
Next best: Shintillo (3.15 Newmarket)

NEWCASTLE

THUNDERER
1.35 Mam'zelle Angot. 2.05 Moving Arrow. 2.35 Dangerous Shadow. 3.05 Surrey Dancer. 3.35 Miss Freebie. 4.05 Queens Consul.

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 3.35 Memorable.

GOING: GOOD TO SOFT (SOFT IN PLACES)
DRAW: 6F-7F, HIGH NUMBERS BEST

1.35 MOONGLOW HANDICAP
(£3,235: 7f) (19 runners)

1 1400 PRIDE OF PENDLE 14 (C,D,F,G,S) R Bastiman 4-10-0 H Bastiman (7) 19
2 0180 SALDA 21 (C,S) R Whitaker 4-9-4 A Culhane 18
3 0234 MUSTN'T GRUMBLE 25 B Beasley 3-9-2 J Carroll 13
4 2000 CLAUDIA MISS 133 (D,G,S) W Haigh 6-9-2 Dale Gibson 10
5 -003 MAM'ZELLE ANGOT 14 Miss S Hall 3-9-2 J Fortune 5
6 3020 WEE SARAH 14 T Barron 5-9-0 V Halliday (7) 14
7 6-00 COASTAL EXPRESS 60 (B,D,F,G) E Weymes 4-8-12 M Birch 12
8 0000 GENTLE HERO 21 (D,F,G,S) M Naughton 7-8-7 N Connorton 7
9 0050 CICERONE 32 (D,G) P Calver 3-8-4 G Hind 1
10 5600 PUBLIC WAY 36 (D,G) N Chamberlain 3-8-3 C Teague (7) 9
11 0000 TWILIGHT FALLS 12 (F,S) M Camacho 8-8-3 L Charnock 11
12 0001 BECKYHANNAH 26 (B,S) R Bastiman 3-8-2 M Humphries (7) 16
13 0550 MARETTE LARKIN 161 J Hetherton 4-8-1 M Wood 17
14 0205 SPANISH LOVE 9 (D,F,S) Mrs S Williams 7-7-12 S Maloney (3) 3
15 0225 COOL ENOUGH 40 (D,F,G,S) Mrs J Ramsden 12-7-11 T Williams 2
16 0004 ROAR ON TOUR 36 (D,G) Mrs M Reveley 4-7-8 J Fanning 4
17 -006 VALLEY OF TIME 117 (D,F) D Nolan 5-7-7 — 8
18 0054 PETAL'S JARRED 39 Mrs J Ramsden 3-7-7 Darren Moffatt (5) 6
19 0050 MISS HOSTESS 110 (B) D Nolan 6-7-7 N Kennedy (3) 15

5-1 Mustn't Grumble, 6-1 Beckyhannah, 7-1 Roar On Tour, 8-1 Mam'zelle Angot, 10-1 Petal's Jarred, Public Way, 12-1 Twilight Falls, 14-1 others.

2.05 MOON RIVER MAIDEN STAKES
(2-Y-O: £3,289: 7f) (7)

1 DISPOL DANCER P Calver 9-0 G Hind 6
2 5 EL SALVADOR 11 J Berry 9-0 L Charnock 2
3 00 KILERNAN 12 T Barron 9-0 J Fortune 4
4 0 LAUNCHSELECT 8 D Chapman 9-0 J Fanning 7
5 522 MOVING ARROW 8 Miss S Hall 9-0 N Connorton 5
6 ALNIK R Hollinshead 8-9 S Perks 3
7 63 SARIYAA 40 M Stoute 8-9 W Ryan 1

7-4 Moving Arrow, 3-1 Launchselect, 9-2 Suriyaa, 7-1 Dispol Dancer, 10-1 El Salvador, 12-1 Kilernan, 25-1 Alnik.

2.35 FLY ME TO THE MOON NURSERY HANDICAP
(2-Y-O: £3,201: 6f) (7)

1 4435 WOO 32 (G) M Tompkins 9-7 Dale Gibson 7
2 2014 DANGEROUS SHADOW 4 (C,D,F,S) Mrs M Reveley 9-6 Darren Moffatt (5) 5
3 1230 BOLD ALEX 15 (D,BF,S) S Norton 9-0 N Connorton 1
4 540 BUSTLE'EM 9 W Easy 8-11 S Maloney (3) 6
5 6000 MONKEY MUSIC 16 (V,G) J Berry 8-6 J Carroll 2
6 4656 ORIENTAL AIR 10 E Weymes 8-6 G Hind 4
7 0500 DINOT 16 R Hollinshead 8-2 M Humphries (7) 3

5-2 Dangerous Shadow, 7-2 Monkey Music, 6-1 Bold Alex, 13-2 Dinot, 7-1 Woo, 8-1 Bustle'Em, 10-1 Oriental Air.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: B Beasley, 5 winners from 12 runners, 41.7%; H Cecil, 14 from 35, 40.0%; J Gosden, 7 from 19, 36.8%; M Stoute, 14 from 45, 31.1%; M Camacho, 9 from 32, 28.1%; M Tompkins, 3 from 15, 20.0%.

JOCKEYS: W Ryan, 10 winners from 52 rides, 19.2%; J Carroll, 20 from 120, 16.7%; N Connorton, 11 from 66, 16.7%; M Birch, 21 from 142, 14.8%; S Perks, 4 from 32, 12.5%; G Hind, 3 from 25, 12.0%.

3.05 MOONMAN HANDICAP
(£3,348: 1m 2f 32yd) (12)

1 3321 SURREY DANCER 9 (D,F,G,S) Mrs M Reveley 5-10-0 S Copp (7) 4
2 200- FAMILY LINE 196J (G) Miss L Perratt 5-9-8 J Carroll 10
3 5010 IMPERIAL BID 9 (D,F,G) Denys Smith 5-9-2 C Teague (7) 3
4 0100 SELF EXPRESSION 14 (D,F,G,S) Mrs J Ramsden 5-9-2 D Thomas (7) 2
5 000/ INSPIRED GUESS 14J (G) D Nolan 6-8-9 J Fortune 11
6 1231 ESSAYEFFSEE 35 (D,F,G) Mrs M Reveley 4-8-9 J Fanning 12
7 0001 AEGAEN LADY 4 (D,G,S) J Etherington 4-8-8 (4ex) M Birch 7
8 4562 BILOELA 4 Jimmy Fitzgerald 3-8-7 W Ryan 5
9 1500 DOCTOR ROY 23 (D,F,G) N Bycroft 5-8-0 L Charnock 1
10 0000 PERSIAN FOUNTAIN 24 (B,S) B Rothwell 3-7-13 S Wood 6
11 2365 CUTTHROAT KID 40 (B) S Norton 3-7-11 Darren Moffatt (5) 9
12 3524 RAPID MOVER 14J (B,S) D Nolan 6-7-7 T Williams 8

7-2 Aegean Lady, 4-1 Surrey Dancer, 5-1 Essayeffsee, 7-1 Biloela, 8-1 Rapid Mover, 10-1 Family Line, Imperial Bid, 12-1 Persian Fountain, 16-1 others.

3.35 MOONLIGHT BECOMES YOU CLAIMING STAKES
(2-Y-O: £3,054: 1m 1f 9yd) (16)

1 0433 MEMORABLE 9 M Tompkins 9-3 W Ryan 10
2 6000 BARNPARK 7 N Bycroft 9-1 S Maloney (3) 4
3 683 RESPONSE 15 J Scargill 8-13 G Hind 1
4 0 RAINBOWS RHAPSODY 12 M Camacho 8-10 L Charnock 2
5 0050 LAUREL ROMEO 9 (B,F) J Berry 8-7 J Carroll 5
6 6000 ASTROLOGY 16 E Incisa 8-4 Kim Tinkler 3
7 6005 GLENVALLY 9 B Murray 8-4 J Fortune 9
8 0000 SEMAH'S DREAM 5 A Hambly 8-4 J O'Reilly 7
9 6300 DRAGON MAN 25 P Haslam 8-3 C Adamson (7) 16
10 0300 LEGAL TRAIN 9 J Etherington 8-3 A Culhane 15
11 40 LITTLE SENOR 25 P Haslam 8-3 J Marshall (5) 8
12 030 BIRCHWOOD STAR 25 R Hollinshead 8-0 M Humphries (7) 12
13 0600 CHELSEA LADY 9 J Hetherton 7-12 S Wood 6
14 000 LADY GWEN 25 (B) J J O'Neill 7-12 Dale Gibson 11
15 5002 MISS FREEBIE 16 R Whitaker 7-12 R Kennedy (3) 13
16 4030 NEVER SO TRUE 4 P Haslam 7-12 T Williams 14

4-1 Miss Freebie, 5-1 Memorable, 6-1 Response, 7-1 Dragon Man, 8-1 Laurel Romeo, Glenvally, 10-1 Never So True, 12-1 Legal Train, 14-1 others.

4.05 BLUE MOON MAIDEN STAKES
(3-Y-O: £3,201: 1m) (9)

1 02 FLOWING OCEAN 7 J Gosden 9-0 J Carroll 8
2 620- ROMEO OSCAR 348 B Beasley 9-0 Dale Gibson 7
3 0-00 CLAR DUBH 82J J Hetherton 8-9 M Wood 3
4 CRAMONA E Alston 8-9 J Fortune 6
5 2-3 FORESHORE 7 A Stewart 8-9 S Whitworth 5
6 45- HEJRAAN 401 M Stoute 8-9 M Birch 1
7 0-0 ONE FOR TONDY 7 N Bycroft 8-9 L Charnock 9
8 0203 QUEENS CONSUL 7 B Rothwell 8-9 S Wood 2
9 4 TRIBECA 7 H Cecil 8-9 W Ryan 4

5-2 Flowing Ocean, 3-1 Tribeca, 4-1 Foreshore, 5-1 Hejraan, 12-1 Queens Consul, Romeo Oscar, 14-1 others.

Zindari to stave off British challenge

ZINDARI can land tomorrow's Criterium de Saint-Cloud, the last group one race of the French Flat season. Francois Boutin's colt finished a good fourth to Lost World in the Grand Criterium over a mile at Longchamp last time and will be well suited by this ten furlongs. Paul Cole runs Blaaziing Joe and Clive Brittain sends Village Eagle, but both have to improve considerably to take a hand.

John Gosden's Felawnah and the John Hills-trained Forthwith tackle the group three Prix Flore (1m 2f 110yd) on the same card.

WARWICK

THUNDERER
1.15 Buglet. 1.50 Knight's Spur. 2.20 Act Of Parliament. 2.50 Crystal Spirit. 3.25 Canoscan. 4.00 Parsons Green. 4.30 Bass Rock.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM

1.15 ST MARY'S JUVENILE NOVICES HURDLE
(3-Y-O: £1,484: 2m) (21 runners)

1 1 GLOWING PATH 12F (F) R Hodges 11-4 W McFarland
2 0 BARTON ROYAL 25 P Rodgers 10-12 Richard Guest
3 CORNELIUS O'DEA R Hodges 10-12 H Davies
4 DANGER BABY 86F R Dickin 10-12 D Meredith (3)
5 DESTINY CALLS 30F N Gaselee 10-12 R Supple
6 EXCESS BAGGAGE 30F Pat Mitchell 10-12 M Hourigan
7 4 ONE MORE POUND 14 M Dixon 10-12 M Perrett
8 POCONO KNIGHT 100F C Jones 10-12 G Upton
9 SHADES OF CROFT 386F Lady Herries 10-12 E Murphy
10 4 SOLOMAN SPRINGS 17 Mrs V Ward 10-12 N Williamson
11 52R6 STAR MARKET 21 Mrs P Joynes 10-12 Mr S Joynes (7)
12 TACTICAL TOMMY N Twiston-Davies 10-12 T Jenks (5)
13 0 TTYFRAN 19 B Baugh 10-12 T Wall
14 0 TURFMANS VISION 21 R Hollinshead 10-12 S Wynne (3)
15 00 WESTRAY 12 D Wellcome 10-12 A Carroll
16 R YOSHAARIK 23 A Forbes 10-12 T Eley (5)
17 ALYVAIR 45F M Ryan 10-7 J Ryan
18 2 BUGLET 84 (BF) M Pipe 10-7 R Dunwoody
19 3260 FREE DANCER 10 R Brotherton 10-7 —
20 LEGAL RISK 25F D Haydn Jones 10-7 N Mann
21 0 SHALHOLME 10 P Murphy 10-7 D Matthews (7)

5-2 Buglet, 4-1 One More Pound, 5-1 Tactical Tommy, 7-1 Glowing Path, 8-1 Soloman Springs, 12-1 Free Dancer, 14-1 others.

1.50 SPILLERS RACING MIX HANDICAP CHASE
(£3,730: 2m) (13)

1 31/0/ MURPHY 704 (D,F,G) S Sherwood 9-11-10 G Upton
2 2F2- THE SLATER 217 (CD,F,B,S) W G M Turner 8-11-4 R Dunwoody
3 -211 POSITIVE ACTION 16 (D,F,G,S) M Barnes 7-11-2 A Dobbin (3)
4 6-5F KNIGHT'S SPUR 26 (D,F,G) J Webber 6-11-2 R J Beggan
5 2P-U SAILORS LUCK 7 (D,S) P Murphy 8-10-12 E Murphy
6 0-23 LUCKY AGAIN 14 (D,G) C Popham 6-10-9 C Maude
7 2136/ EVENING RAIN 12F (D,F,G,S) R Hodges 7-10-8 H Davies
8 PP-P ROMAN DART 14 (CD,G,S) M Scudamore 9-10-8 R Bellamy
9 0/1- HEARTS ARE WILD 371 (G) T Forster 6-10-7 M Perrett
10 -423 L'UOMO PIU 7 (D,BF,F,G) A Barrow 9-10-7 N Williamson
11 2U25 BUMPTIOUS BOY 16 (F) A J Wilson 9-10-0 B Clifford
12 P0P- RUMBLE 220 A Turnell 5-10-0 D Fortt (7)
13 /550 FATHER PADDY 10 (CD,F) C Nash 11-10-0 W Marston (3)

4-1 Positive Action, 5-1 The Slater, 6-1 Lucky Again, 7-1 L'Uomo Piu, 8-1 Bumptious Boy, 10-1 Knight's Spur, Sailors Luck, 12-1 Murphy, 14-1 others.

2.20 WEST OXFORDSHIRE NOVICES HURDLE
(£1,473: 2m 4f 110yd) (14)

1 5- ACT OF PARLIAMENT 182 K Bailey 5-10-12 N Williamson
2 ALAPA 1540F A Coogan 6-10-12 A Coogan
3 0- BLACK ARROW 171 D O'Brien 6-10-12 Mr Raymond White
4 P DANZARIN 22 I Campbell 5-10-12 R Campbell
5 PP/0 MASTER BUSTER 24 P Carroll 8-10-12 D Skyrme
6 0/ MONKSANDER 1071 P Ritchens 7-10-12 Richard Guest
7 -PP0 NORDIC FLIGHT 17 R Eckley 5-10-12 R Dunwoody
8 00-0 PRINCETHORPE 15 B Cambidge 6-10-12 D Meredith (3)
9 042- RIVER MANDATE 245 T Forster 6-10-12 H Davies
10 /344- ROYAL REFRAIN 186 T Forster 8-10-12 R Farrant (5)
11 0/0 WANDERLINE 28 C Trietline 6-10-12 Peter Caldwell
12 6/P RED NEST 14 Mrs P Joynes 5-10-7 Mr S Joynes (7)
13 6P0- SEMINOLE PRINCESS 212 C Jones 5-10-7 K Davies (7)
14 P SPACE MOLLY 7 J Webber 4-10-7 W Marston (3)

9-4 River Mandate, 7-2 Act Of Parliament, 4-1 Royal Refrain, 8-1 Seminole Princess, Danzarin, 12-1 others.

2.50 BONUSPRINT NOVICES CHASE
(£3,912: 2m 4f 110yd) (4)

1 33-2 CRYSTAL SPIRIT 8 (BF,F,G,S) I Balding 6-11-0 R Dunwoody
2 644- DI MODA 236 J Bosley 6-11-0 M Bosley
3 30-3 MARTRAJAN 16 Mrs J Pitman 6-11-0 W McFarland
4 -50F RICH AND RED 14 K Bailey 7-10-9 N Williamson

4-6 Crystal Spirit, 9-4 Di Moda, 6-1 Rich And Red, 10-1 Martrajan.

3.25 TENSATOR LTD HANDICAP HURDLE
(£3,938: 2m 4f 110yd) (11)

1 2/5-4 JEASSU 17 (C,D,F,G,S) A J Wilson 10-12-0 B Clifford
2 3213 MIDFIELDER 14 (F,S) P Hobbs 7-11-4 R Dunwoody
3 /4-11 CANOSCAN 11 (D,G) Lady Herries 8-10-9 E Murphy
4 FP-0 FIRST CRACK 15 (C,F,G,S) F Jordan 8-10-0 R Supple
5 130- SMITH TOO 180 (F) Mrs J Pitman 5-10-0 I Lawrence
6 P-25 SECRET SUMMIT 26 (F,G,S) A Forbes 7-10-0 T Eley (5)
7 P/0-4 FOR HEAVEN'S SAKE 7 (D,F,G) B Preece 8-10-0 T Wall
8 530-0 REVE EN ROSE 7 (F,G) M McMillan 7-10-0 N Williamson
9 06-0 FAST CRUISE 63 (G,S) E Owen jun 8-10-0 R Bellamy
10 6400 MOUNTSHANNON 7 (D,G) C Trietline 7-10-0 Peter Caldwell
11 0-12F STANE STREET 46 (F,G) R Phillips 5-10-0 R Farrant (5)

11-4 Midfielder, 7-2 Canoscan, 9-2 Jeassu, 6-1 For Heaven's Sake, 7-1 First Crack, 8-1 Smith Too, 12-1 Stane Street, 14-1 others.

4.00 CROSBEE AND ATKINS HANDICAP CHASE
(£4,302: 3m 2f) (6)

1 6F6U- PARSONS GREEN 198 (B,G,S) N Henderson 9-11-10 R Dunwoody
2 -323 KNIGHT OIL 16 (B,D,F,G,S) O Sherwood 10-10-11 Mr J Durkan
3 232- DO BE BRIEF 155 (B,G,S) Mrs J Pitman 8-10-2 W McFarland
4 06-5 RIO HAINA 24 (CD,F,G,S) T Forster 8-10-0 M Perrett
5 6-P4 VIRIDIAN 14 (B,F,G,S) E Buckley 8-10-0 N Williamson
6 33-1 KINGFISHER BAY 26 (F,G) J White 8-10-0 P McLoughlin (7)

2-1 Do Be Brief, 5-2 Knight Oil, 4-1 Parsons Green, 6-1 Kingfisher Bay 8-1 Rio Haina, 12-1 Viridian.

4.30 GRUNWICK STAKES NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE
(£2,024: 2m) (24)

1 13- NIRVANA PRINCE 171 (F) B Preece 4-11-7 T Jenks (5)
2 BASS ROCK I Balding 5-11-2 R Darke (7)
3 00- CREDIT CALL 191 R Brazington 5-11-2 D Meredith (3)
4 00- CUMREWS NEPHEW 208 R Brotherton 5-11-2 V Slattery
5 MAJOR MAC D Williams 5-11-2 R Davis (5)
6 06- OUR ARNOLD 171 J Pilkington 5-11-2 P Maddock (7)
7 PHIL'S DREAM Mrs J Pitman 5-11-2 D Bohan (7)
8 PRINCE RUBEN T Forster 6-11-2 R Farrant (5)
9 SUPERFORCE A Coogan 5-11-2 J Neaves (7)
10 THE STING D O'Brien 6-11-2 Mr Raymond White
11 TWISTED BAR P Hobbs 5-11-2 M Hourigan
12 BLACK OPAL Mrs J Pitman 4-11-0 L O'Hare (7)
13 GOOD FEELING A Jarvis 4-11-0 P Naughton (7)
14 P HOPEFULL DRUMMER 17 L Cottrell 4-11-0 Mr N Harris
15 0 SUNGIA 30 K Bridgwater 4-11-0 D Leahy (5)
16 00- CELTIC EMERALD 191 R Eckley 5-10-11 NON-RUNNER
17 0- FLAPPING FREDA 191 J Jenkins 5-10-11 D Fortt (7)
18 LEWESDON PRINCESS J White 5-10-11 P McLoughlin (7)
19 SOLO GIRL A Jones 5-10-11 Mr C Vigors (7)
20 ALTESSE ROXANNE Mrs L Jewell 4-10-9 Pat Thompson (7)
21 0 DREAMLINE 8 M Muggeridge 4-10-9 R Williamson (7)
22 FOXY LASS B Cambidge 4-10-9 Mr J Cambidge
23 0 HOT 'N ROSIE 15 D Gandolfo 4-10-9 W Marston (3)
24 HURRICANE SUE A Jarvis 4-10-9 G McGrath (7)

5-2 Bass Rock, 4-1 Phil's Dream, 5-1 Black Opal, 8-1 Nirvana Prince, Lewesdon Princess, 10-1 Prince Ruben, 12-1 Twisted Bar, 16-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: N Gaselee, 9 winners from 26 runners, 34.6%; W G M Turner, 5 from 15, 33.3%; M Pipe, 31 from 118, 26.3%; R Hodges, 3 from 13, 23.1%; N Henderson, 9 from 45, 20.0%.

JOCKEYS: R Campbell, 3 winners from 8 rides, 37.5%; T Jenks, 3 from 10, 30.0%; Richard Guest, 5 from 22, 22.7%; R Dunwoody, 23 from 102, 22.5%; M Perrett, 4 from 22, 18.2%; W Marston, 4 from 29, 13.8%.

YESTERDAY'S THREE MEETINGS

Newmarket

Going: good

1.10 (6f) 1, GREEN GREEN DESERT (W R Swinburn, 3-1); 2, Alazwar (R Hills, 11-4 fav); 3, Danish Heights (R Price, 4-1). ALSO RAN: 10 Lake Poet, 12 Yazeenhaa (4th), Never So Blue (6th), 14 Added Dimension, Trade Wind (5th), 33 Favila, Millridge, Priscilla Rose, Ten-To-Six Girl. 12 ran. ½l, 2½l, 1½l, 2l, 1l. M Stoute at Newmarket. Tote: £3.80; £1.60, £1.60, £1.50. DF: £5.80. CSF: £11.14. 1min 14.94sec.

1.40 (1m) 1, KING OF NAPLES (S Raymont, 14-1); 2, Bluegrass Prince (Pat Eddery, 7-2); 3, Pursuit Of Glory (J Weaver, 10-1). ALSO RAN: 11-8 fav Wading (5th), 9-2 Sea Of Rocks (4th), 10 Jabaroot, 16 Shock, Diggers Well (6th), 33 Thunderheart. 9 ran. NR: Sibelian Sound. ¾l, ½l, 1½l, nk, ½l. R Charlton at Beckhampton. Tote: £15.40; £3.20, £1.60, £2.40. DF: £46.90. CSF: £81.20. 1min 45.15sec.

2.10 (1m 2f) 1, MEADOW PIPIT (W R Swinburn, 6-1); 2, Young Buster (Pat Eddery, 2-1 fav); 3, Red Bishop (M Roberts, 4-1). ALSO RAN: 11-2 Fayfa, 11 Kasiba (5th), 14 Getaway, 20 Frenchpark (4th), Fret, Rose Alto, 50 Halkopous (6th). 10 ran. 3l, 3l, ¾l, ¾l, nk. J Gosden at Newmarket. Tote: £5.60; £1.90, £1.40, £1.70. DF: £6.60. CSF: £17.00. 2min 7.12sec.

2.45 (2m) 1, MY PATRIARCH (Pat Eddery, 7-4 fav); 2, Ritto (M Roberts, 7-2); 3, Morley Street (J Williams, 12-1). ALSO RAN: 8 My Desire (6th), Not In Doubt, 9 Nassma, 12 Derab (5th), 16 Rosina Mae, 20 Rodeo Star (4th), 25 Sotartica, Malamute Saloon, 50 Aude La Belle. 12 ran. 4l, ¾l, nk, ½l, sh hd. J Dunlop at Arundel. Tote: £2.90; £1.60, £1.70, £2.30. DF: £4.70. Trio: £18.20. CSF: £8.68. Tricast: £55.37. 3min 34.17sec.

3.15 (1m 4f) 1, RIZ BIZ (Darren Moffatt, 16-1); 2, Cast The Line (W Carson, 16-1); 3, Broughton's Tango (D McCabe, 20-1); 4, Head Turner (D Biggs, 12-1). ALSO RAN: 10-1 fav Kismetim, 12 Amazon Express, Merry Mermaid, Ruffle (6th), 14 Crackling, 16 Rose Noble, Absalom's Pillar, Scenic Dancer, Lookingforarainbow (5th), 20 Romalito, Beaumont, Rousitto, Broughtons Formula, 25 Who's The Best, Eire Leath-Sceal, 33 Bottles, Tight Fist, Rusty Reel, Jutfaar, Sociamo, Hallow Fair, 50 Sharro, Roxy River, Malancolia, Highland Flame, 66 Final Action, Vaigly Blazed, 100 Desperate Man, Barbary Reef, Quessong, Enchanted Flyer. 35 ran. 1½l, hd, hd, ¾l, nk. M Bell at Newmarket. Tote: £29.00; £5.60, £4.70, £6.40, £4.70. DF: £670.20. Trio: £1,306.30. CSF: £240.15. Tricast: £4,648.88. 2min 35.60sec.

3.45 (5f) 1, HIGH HOLME (M Roberts, 9-2); 2, Featherstone Lane (D Harrison, 8-1); 3, Brave Edge (Pat Eddery, 9-2). ALSO RAN: 15-8 fav Recaptured Days (6th), 5 Allwight Then (4th), 16 Billy Cruncheon (5th), 20 Raisa Point, 25 Legatee, 33 Hollington Song. 9 ran. NR: No Mean City. 1l, 1½l, ¾l, sh hd, ¾l. D Thom at Newmarket. Tote: £5.10; £1.40, £1.80, £1.70. DF: £28.70. Trio: £613.20. CSF: £36.31. Tricast: £154.60. 1min 01.28sec.

4.15 (1m 1f) 1, MASTER BEVELED (S Sanders, 8-1); 2†, Mo-Addab (C Dykes, 11-1); 2†, Silver Groom (D Gibbs, 14-1); 4, Move Smartly (T G McLaughlin, 16-1). ALSO RAN: 9-2 fav Glowing Jade (5th), 13-2 Blowedifiknow, 8 Francia, 9 Exhibit Air (6th), 12 Duke Of Dreams, 14 Ahjay, 16 Comiac's Legend, 20 Mellsio, Daring King, Medland, Major Triumph, 33 Hotsocks, Nymph Errant, 50 Canderela, Arrasas Lady, Pondicherry, Chiltern Hundreds. 21 ran. NR: Fort Vally. ½l, dd-ht, ½l, 1½l, 2l. P Evans at Welshpool. Tote: £14.50; £2.00; Mo-Addab £2.80, Silver Groom £3.40, £6.80. DF: Master Beveled, Mo-Addab £63.40; Master Beveled, Silver Groom £74.10. CSF: Master Beveled, Mo-Addab £50.78; Master Beveled, Silver Groom £62.24. Tricast: Master Beveled, Mo-Addab, Silver Groom £839.24; Master Beveled, Silver Groom, Mo-Addab £547.61. 1min 54.63sec.

Jackpot: not won (pool of £16,830.16 carried forward to Newmarket today).

Placepot: £222.30.

Bangor

Going: good

1.20 (2m 1f hdle) 1, Ruling Dynasty (M Hourigan, 11-8 fav); 2, Band Sargeant (7-2); 3, Always Ready (6-1). 8 ran. NR: Nothingbutrouble. Hd, ¾l. M Usher. Tote: £2.20; £1.10, £1.30, £2.10. DF: £3.30. CSF: £8.24.

1.50 (2m 4f 110yd ch) 1, Better Times Ahead (R Dunwoody, 9-2); 2, Washington-crossing (3-1); 3, Comedy Road (9-1). Gaelic Frolic 7-4 fav. 6 ran. 8l, 7l. G Richards. Tote: £3.90; £2.20, £2.30. DF: £6.60. CSF: £16.53.

2.20 (3m 110yd ch) 1, Sandaig (N Williamson, 11-4), 2, Cwm Arctic (33-1); 3, Crown Eyeglass (14-1). Whatagale 5-2 fav. 9 ran. 4l, 1½l. K Bailey. Tote: £2.40, £1.80, £8.20, £1.50. DF: £77.00. CSF: £62.30. Tricast: £929.30

2.55 (2m 1f hdle) 1, Pyrrhic Dance (R Dunwoody, 10-1); 2, Swiss Mountain (20-1). 3, Gunner Sue (50-1). Wordsmith 10-11 fav. 8 ran. NR: Most Equal. Nk, ½l. C Mann. Tote: £9.30; £1.20, £2.30, £2.80 DF: £51.10. CSF: £139.81

3.25 (2m 1f 110yd ch) 1, Shrewd John (R Garritty, 7-1); 2, Thumbs Up (5-6 fav); 3, Good For A Loan (8-1). 13 ran. 1½l, 7l. R Woodhouse. Tote £5.00; £1.50, £1.20, £2.00. DF: £5.50. CSF: £13.07.

3.55 (2m 1f hdle) 1, Westholme (R Garritty, 5-6 fav): 2, Admiralty Way (7-2); 3, Mohana (5-2). 4 ran. 10l, 5l. M H Easterby. Tote. £1.40. DF: £3.00. CSF: £3.89.

Placepot: £281.20.

Wetherby

Going: good

1.30 (2m 4f 110yd hdle) 1, Shaffic (P Niven, 5-2 fav); 2, Admiral Villeneuve (5-1). 3, Cowley (25-1). 11 ran. 15l, nk. Mrs M Reveley. Tote: £3.00, £1.40, £1.90, £6.20. DF: £8.80. CSF. £14.51.

2.00 (2m ch) 1, King Of The Lot (A Maguire, 11-8 fav): 2, General Pershing (5-1); 3, Maudlins Cross (4-1). 4 ran. 8l, 4l. D Nicholson. Tote: £2.10 DF: £2.40. CSF: £7.18.

2.30 (2m ch) 1, Keep Sharp (Richard Guest, 9-1), 2, Explosive Speed (5-1). Coulton 30-100 fav. 4 ran. Hd. Mrs S Smith. Tote: £8.70. DF: £9.20. CSF: £37.78.

3.05 (2m hdle) 1, Auburn Boy (L Wyer, 2-1 fav), 2, Seven Towers (7-2), 3, Emperor Buck (5-2). 15 ran. NR: Five Flags. 2l, 8l. M W Easterby. Tote: £3.80; £1.60, £1.80, £1.50. DF. £5.40. Trio: £4.50. CSF £10.63.

3.35 (3m 110yd ch) 1, Mr Boston (P Niven, 7-4 fav), 2, Merry Master (4-1); 3, On The Other Hand (8-1). 6 ran. 6l, 4l. Mrs M Reveley. Tote £2.40; £1.70, £2.30 DF: £4.00. CSF £8.75.

4.05 (2m 4f 110yd hdle) 1, Taroudant (P Niven, 4-6 fav). 2, Bollin William (15-2); 3, Northumbrian King (50-1). 8 ran. Sh hd, 6l. Mrs M Reveley. Tote: £1.50; £1.10, £1.80, £3.30. DF. £4.50. CSF: £6.51. Tricast: £123.27.

Placepot £248.40.

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Jodami in good heart for early Wetherby appetiser

By Julian Muscat

JODAMI, the Cheltenham Gold Cup winner, makes his seasonal reappearance at Wetherby this afternoon in as fascinating a contest as any lover of National Hunt racing could expect at this early stage of the season.

The Peter Beaumont-trained eight-year-old, already the 4-1 favourite to successfully defend his crown at the Festival, squares up to Cab On Target, the 7-1 second favourite to depose him. However, the Charlie Hall Chase is far from a two-horse contest.

Adding considerable flavour to the occasion are five notable rivals. The 1991 Gold Cup winner, Garrison Savannah, recently showed he has retained his ability by giving Bradbury Star a good race at Cheltenham and Sibton Abbey, trained by Ferdie Murphy, was a game winner of last season's Hennessy Gold Cup at Newbury.

Tipping Tim beat Another Coral by seven lengths in the Mackeson Gold Cup at Cheltenham last November, while the Dick Allan-trained Pat's Jester chased home the talented French chaser The Fellow in last season's King George VI Chase at Kempton.

The field is completed by the highly-regarded David Nicholson-trained Barton Bank, one of last season's leading novice chasers. Such is the depth of quality that a victory by any one of the septet would not constitute a great surprise.

But all eyes will be on Jodami, as Beaumont is only too well aware. "The horse is in good fettle, but he is far from fully wound up," Beaumont said yesterday. "He will definitely be better for it. It's a long time between now and March but I'm pleased with him. He is fit enough to run a good race."

Beaumont is irritated at suggestions that his eight-year-old is, in his words, "spot on for his first outing". Nevertheless, Jodami has won at the first time of asking in three of his four seasonal debuts, and Mary Reveley, trainer of Cab On Target, seemed almost prepared for defeat yesterday.

She said: "Cab On Target will obviously be doing his best but we certainly won't be too hard on him to win the race. He is running mainly because I think it is better to start him off in a field this size rather than carry 12 stone in a handicap."

The Saltburn trainer, ever cautious in the build-up to a big race, was talking true to form. "The horse is still inexperienced over fences," she added. "He is a good horse on his day but I'm not exactly sure whether he's on song at the moment. He is a difficult horse to catch right."

If the two principals indulged in a bout of self-deprecating verbal jousting, Nigel Twiston-Davies, trainer of Tipping Tim, at least predicted his horse would improve significantly for his seasonal debut in a slowly-run race at Cheltenham 11 days ago. "Jodami needed his first two races last season and my horse is in very good form. They should go much faster at Wetherby and that will certainly suit me," Twiston-Davies argued.

Wetherby will play host to a crowd of Boxing Day proportions for this intriguing encounter. The result may be slightly academic as far as the Gold Cup at Cheltenham next March is concerned, yet all seven trainers would dearly love the moral victory that success in this chase will bestow on the winner.



Jodami warms up in defence of his chasing crown

Holland split

Darryll Holland rides Nicer at Keeneland, Kentucky, today, one of his final commitments as retained jockey to Barry Hills. The Lambourn trainer and Holland, 21, have decided to split at the end of this season.

Conditions ideal for Mellottie

ASCOT
BBC1

1.30: Marco Magnifico is a smart recruit off the Flat, but **Mohaya**, who shaped with promise on his hurdling bow at Cheltenham, is preferred.

2.05: The Glow can beat off the challenge from Josh Gifford's pair, Gandouge Glen and Run Up The Flag.

2.35: Billy Bathgate and Atlaal are too far out of the handicap to consider against **Storm Alert**. Andy Turnell's accurate jumper has most to fear from Boutzdaroff.

NEWMARKET
C4

1.40: Double Trigger ran away from moderate opposition at Redcar and can continue in the winning vein. He will relish this testing trip. So will Muwafik, but he would prefer softer ground. Barbaroja is improving.

2.10: Fraam is now 14lb worse with **Mellottie** than when beating that rival by 6½ lengths at Doncaster last month. The latter should take his revenge here, particularly with today's faster ground in his favour.

2.45: Dumaani looked a colt with ability on his Newmarket debut against previous winners and can underline the point in a race where two-year-olds have a fine record. Lacerta and Mithl Al Hawa have been frustrating to follow.

3.15: Together, Saifan and Prenonamoss beat eight of today's rivals when they were successful in races on this course two weeks ago. Preference is for Arak, who was unfavourably drawn in Prenonamoss's race, but **Set The Fashion** makes more appeal. Lord Huntingdon's gelding goes unpenalised for a convincing victory in a ladies' race at Goodwood.

WETHERBY
C4

1.55: Flakey Dove, a recent winner on the Flat, can take a race in which fitness will be a big advantage.

2.25: Cab On Target goes well fresh but his inexperience is against him in this league. He will do well to contain **Jodami** at these weights. Last season's Gold Cup winner came in earlier from grass than he did last year, when he needed his first two races.

3.30: Peter Cheesbrough, who took over Arthur Stephenson's stable last season, will want to win with Arthur's Minstrel but **Brackenfield** looks too good.

Julian Muscat

TODAY'S RACES ON TELEVISION

WETHERBY

THUNDERER

12.50 Royal Vacation
1.25 Sir Peter Lely
1.55 Burgoyne
2.25 Tipping Tim
2.55 Erzadjan
3.30 Brackenfield
4.05 Starstreak

GOING: GOOD — SIS

12.50 MERCER MARRIAGE NOVICES HURDLE (£2,215: 3m 1f) (9 runners)

1 U532-11 ROYAL VACATION 22 (F,G) G Moore 4-11-9 ... J Callaghan 97
2 3/603- ANOTHER NICK 245 J Jefferson 7-10-12 ... P Williams (5) 82
3 2-03354 MASTER BOSTON 29 R Woodhouse 5-10-12 ... R Garritty 84
4 3234-4 SHOOFE 17 K Morgan 5-10-12 ... A S Smith [TT]
5 1-0 MAN O MINE 8 (F) F Murphy 4-10-11 ... P Murphy (7) 93
6 23 TOPPING TOM 21 (BF) N Twiston-Davies 4-10-11 ... C Llewellyn —
7 PP-5 ADVENT LADY 10 J Eyre 6-10-7 ... A Mulholland —
8 P- DURHAM SUNSET 343 J Johnson 6-10-7 ... A Maguire —
9 111223- PORTONIA 207 (F,S) Mrs M Reveley 9-10-7 ... P Niven —

BETTING: 7-4 Royal Vacation, 4-1 Shoofe, 5-1 Portonia, 6-1 Topping Tom, 12-1 Another Nick, Man O Mine, Master Boston, 20-1 others

1992: EMILY'S STAR 5-11-5 C Llewellyn (4-1) N Twiston-Davies 14 ran

1.25 WIGHILL HANDICAP CHASE (£3,785: 2m 4f 110yd) (7 runners)

1 111212- DAWSON CITY 266 (C,D,F,G,S) M H Easterby 6-12-0 ... L Wyer 89
2 0U0211- USHERS ISLAND 178 (C,F,G) J Johnson 7-11-1 ... A Maguire 90
3 221320- SOUTHERN MINSTREL 184 (C,D,F,G,S) P Cheesbrough 10-10-10 ... C Grant 92
4 PS1/2-61 PINEMARTIN 21 (D,F,G) G Richards 10-10-7 ... N Leach (5) 92
5 6/31U3-2 SCOLE 7 (G) F Murphy 8-10-6 ... P Murphy (7) 95
6 4/132-61 SIR PETER LELY 19 (D,F,G,S) M Hammond 6-10-4 ... P Niven [TT]
7 341361- STEPFASTER 147 (D,F,G) Miss L Siddall 8-10-3 ... C Llewellyn 98

BETTING: 11-4 Sir Peter Lely, 3-1 Dawson City, 9-2 Scole, 6-1 Pinemartin, 8-1 Ushers Island, Southern Minstrel, 10-1 Stepfaster.

1992: WIND FORCE 7-10-13 N Doughty (5-2) G Richards 5 ran

1.55 TOTE WEST YORKSHIRE HURDLE (Grade II: £9,240: 3m 1f) (6 runners) — C4

1 625110- SWEET DUKE 180 (G,S) N Twiston-Davies 6-11-7 ... C Llewellyn 97
2 122305- BURGOYNE 180 (CD,G) M H Easterby 7-11-4 ... P Niven 94
3 344212- CARDINAL RED 180 (F,G) B De Haan 6-11-4 ... M Dwyer 97
4 120210- FLAKEY DOVE 12F (F,G,S) R Price 7-11-2 ... B Powell 93
5 51P/33-1 COUNTORUS 19 (C,G) J Johnson 7-11-0 ... A Maguire 57
6 F4011-3 DEB'S BALL 14F (F,G,S) D Moffatt 7-10-9 ... D J Moffatt [TT]

BETTING: 9-4 Sweet Duke, 3-1 Flakey Dove, 7-2 Burgoyne, 7-1 Cardinal Red, 8-1 Deb's Ball, 12-1 Countorus.

1992: BURGOYNE 6-11-0 L Wyer (4-1) M H Easterby 9 ran

FORM FOCUS

SWEET DUKE beat Simpson 4l in a 9-runner handicap hurdle at Ascot (3m, heavy) on penultimate start. CARDINAL RED 3½l 2nd of 7 to Boscean Chieftain in a conditions hurdle at Haydock (2m 7f 110yd, good to firm) with BURGOYNE (same terms), winner of this race last year, 9l 5th and SWEET DUKE (1lb better off) 9l 7th. FLAKEY DOVE beat Beech Road 1l in a 3-runner grade II hurdle at Uttoxeter (2m 4f 110yd, firm) on penultimate start. COUNTORUS beat Marra's Roscoe in 4l in an 8-runner handicap hurdle at Carlisle (3m 2l 110yd, good). DEB'S BALL 13l 3rd of 6 to Dawadar in a handicap hurdle at Ayr (2m 6l, good).
Selection: SWEET DUKE

2.25 CHARLIE HALL CHASE (Grade II: £15,440: 3m 110yd) (7 runners) — C4

1 221111- JODAMI 226 (D,F,G,S) P Beaumont 8-11-10 ... M Dwyer [TT]
2 123/222- PAT'S JESTER 308 (D,G,S) R Allan 10-11-10 ... B Storey 84
3 415PP-2 SIBTON ABBEY 14 (D,F,G,S) F Murphy 8-11-10 ... G McCourt 90
4 13050-3 TIPPING TIM 10 (CD,G,S) N Twiston-Davies 8-11-10 ... C Llewellyn 85
5 111F1P- BARTON BANK 227 (G,S) D Nicholson 7-11-2 ... A Maguire 70
6 111211- CAB ON TARGET 166 (F,G,S) Mrs M Reveley 7-11-2 ... P Niven 90
7 32062-2 GARRISON SAVANNAH 10 (B,D,G,S) Mrs J Pitman 10-11-2 ... B Powell 86

BETTING: 7-4 Jodami, 2-1 Cab On Target, 7-1 Garrison Savannah, Pat's Jester, 10-1 Tipping Tim, 12-1 Sibton Abbey, Barton Bank.

1992: TIPPING TIM 7-11-2 C Llewellyn (11-4) 7 ran

FORM FOCUS

JODAMI beat Rushing Wild 2l in 16-runner grade I Cheltenham (3m 2l 110yd, good to firm) Gold Cup with SIBTON ABBEY (same terms) 12l 5th, GARRISON SAVANNAH (6lb better off) 10l 7th and TIPPING TIM (same terms) 11l 10th. PAT'S JESTER 6l 2nd of 8 to The Fellow in King George VI Chase at Kempton (3m, good to soft) with TIPPING TIM (same terms) 84l 7th. SIBTON ABBEY distance 2nd of 5 to Black Humour in a handicap chase at Kempton (3m, good) BARTON BANK beat Ardcroney Chief distance in a 3-runner novices' chase at Warwick (3m 2l, good). CAB ON TARGET beat Persian House 8l in 7-runner grade I Future Champions Novices' Chase at Ayr (2m 4l, good). GARRISON SAVANNAH 1¾l 2nd to Bradbury Star in a handicap chase at Cheltenham (2m 5l, good) with TIPPING TIM 30l 3rd.
Selection: JODAMI (nap)

2.55 WENSLEYDALE JUVENILE HURDLE (Grade II: 3-Y-O: £6,340: 2m) (7 runners)

1 11 BURNT IMP 17 (CD,F,S) G Moore 11-2 ... J Callaghan [TT]
2 1 ERZADJAN 10 (D,G) N Tinkler 11-2 ... G McCourt 81
3 5 SEASIDE DREAMER 10 A Hambly 10-12 ... Mr A Hambly 84
4 13 SIR THOMAS BEECHAM 14 (G) S Dow 10-12 ... P Niven 92
5 2 LA VILLA ROSE 12 J Payne 10-7 ... C Llewellyn 79
6 MARROS MILL 36F D Nicholson 10-7 ... A Maguire —
7 U64 SALLY OF THE ALLEY 10 Mrs S Smith 10-7 ... Gary Lyons 70

BETTING: 9-4 Burnt Imp, 5-2 Erzadjan, 7-2 Marros Mill, 6-1 Sir Thomas Beecham, 8-1 Seaside Dreamer, 10-1 La Villa Rose, 25-1 Sally Of The Alley.

1992: DESERT MIST 10-7 C Grant (8-1) Denys Smith 11 ran

3.30 ARTHUR STEPHENSON NOVICES CHASE (£6,970: 3m 110yd) (7 runners) — C4

1 1111-1F BRACKENFIELD 10 (BF,F,G,S) Mrs M Reveley 7-11-4 ... P Niven 90
2 FP540-1 SANDY ANDY 10 (D,G) K Oliver 7-11-4 ... T Reed 82
3 210P-21 VELEDA II 19 (D,F,G) Mrs S Bramall 6-11-4 ... J Burke 92
4 12P254- ABNEGATION 227 (F,G,S) J Johnson 8-10-12 ... G McCourt —
5 22224-R ARTHUR'S MINSTREL 10 (F,G) P Cheesbrough 6-10-12 ... C Grant [TT]
6 1P/04/3 BABIL 28 (F,G,S) N Twiston-Davies 8-10-12 ... C Llewellyn —
7 06-5363 SUPPOSIN 10 Mrs S Smith 5-10-12 ... Gary Lyons 71

BETTING: 4-6 Brackenfield, 5-1 Veleda II, 8-1 Babil, Abnegation, 10-1 Arthur's Minstrel, 20-1 others.

1992: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

FORM FOCUS

BRACKENFIELD beat Dromina Star 8l in a 6-runner novices' chase at Ayr (3m 1l, good). SANDY ANDY beat Moyode Regent 2l in a 14-runner novice chase at Newcastle (3m, good) with SUPPOSIN (3lb better off) 12l 3rd. BRACKENFIELD fell and ARTHUR'S MINSTREL carried out when challenging for the lead 2 out. VELEDA II beat Down The Road 8l in a 6-runner novice chase at Carlisle (3m, good). ABNEGATION 12½l 4th of 21 to Olympian in a handicap hurdle at Cheltenham (2m 5l, good to firm). ARTHUR'S MINSTREL 15½l 4th of 19 to Mustheveaswig in a handicap chase at Doncaster (3m, good). BABIL 31½l 3rd of 9 to Lusty Light in a novice chase at Chepstow (2m 3l 110yd, good).
Selection: ARTHUR'S MINSTREL

4.05 PICKERING HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,758: 2m) (10 runners)

1 13100-5 KADI 8 (D,G,S) D Nicholson 4-12-0 ... A Maguire 93
2 61P120- GYMCRAK STARDOM 211 (D,G,S) G Holmes 7-11-10 ... M Dwyer 95
3 32312- HOME COUNTIES 10F (S) D Moffatt 4-11-9 ... D J Moffatt (3) 87
4 2/121U6- ARCOT 245 (D,G,S) J Glover 5-11-8 ... M Ahern 84
5 332552- KANNDABIL 154 (B,CD,G,S) N Tinkler 6-11-2 ... G McCourt 94
6 02/1- STARSTREAK 435 (F) Mrs M Reveley 6-11-1 ... P Niven 80
7 110/1-F3 SPACE CAPTAIN 22 (G) G Moore 6-10-10 ... N Bentley (5) 80
8 012P2P- LIABILITY ORDER 7F (D,S) M Hammond 4-10-6 ... C Grant 92
9 460110- TOOGOOD TO BE TRUE 196 (D,G,S) M H Easterby 5-10-0 ... L Wyer [TT]
10 00421F- EXPLORATION 148 (F) K Morgan 6-10-0 ... A S Smith 89

Long handicap: Exploration 9-0.

BETTING: 7-2 Arcot, 9-2 Toogood To Be True, 5-1 Starstreak, 7-1 Kadi, 8-1 Liability Order, 10-1 Gymcrak Stardom, Home Counties, 12-1 Space Captain, 14-1 others.

1992: ABLE PLAYER 5-9-8 D Bentley (7-4 fav) C Thornton 5 ran

ASCOT

THUNDERER

12.55 Nahar
1.30 Marco Magnifico
2.05 Run Up The Flag
2.35 Storm Alert
3.05 Texan Tycoon
3.35 Springaleak
4.10 Change The Act

GOING: GOOD (GOOD TO FIRM IN PLACES) — SIS

12.55 VALLEY GARDENS CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HANDICAP HURDLE (£3,501: 2m 4f) (6 runners)

1 112221- HIGH ALLTITUDE 252 (D,G,S) (B Batey) G Moore 5-12-0 ... N Stocks (7) 90
2 113/456- BAS DE LAINE 350 (CD,F,G) (R Bids Ltd) O Sherwood 7-10-12 ... J McCarthy 95
3 05-3221 NAHAR 8 (D,G) (R Cross) S Dow 8-10-7 ... A Dicken 98
4 051-622 CHILD OF THE MIST 8 (D,G,S) (J Whyte) J Whyte 7-10-4 ... R Davis [TT]
5 /P2SPP/ DUKE DE VENDOME 546 (F,G,S) Mrs D Haine 10-10-0 ... C Huggan (7) —
6 12136/ DERISBAY 642 (F,G) (Miss J Self) J Bridger 5-10-0 ... D O'Sullivan —

Long handicap: Duke De Vendome 9-7, Derisbay 8-0

BETTING: 2-1 Nahar, 5-2 High Alltitude, 7-2 Child Of The Mist, 11-2 Bas De Laine, 20-1 others.

1992: BELAFONTE 5-11-1 D Bohan (6-1) P Murphy 7 ran

1.30 BINFIELD JUVENILE NOVICES HURDLE (3-Y-O: £2,827: 2m 110yd) (10 runners) — BBC1

1 FRANK KNOWS (Capt J George) T George 11-0 ... Peter Hobbs —
2 52 HOT OFF THE PRESS 19 (D Clee) R Whitaker 11-0 ... G Bradley 92
3 MARCO MAGNIFICO 15F (Mrs L Simpson) B Hills 11-0 ... M A Fitzgerald —
4 6 MOHAYA 10 (Albury Racing Ltd) J McConnochie 11-0 ... S McNeill [TT]
5 8 MOSHAAJIR 31 (S Macdonald) C Smith 11-0 ... M Ranger 77
6 0 STORM FALCON 14 (E Dalby) S Mellor 11-0 ... S Earle —
7 JOLIS ABSENT 25F (P Hart) M Ryan 10-9 ... S Smith Eccles —
8 4 LA POSADA 8 (E Houghton) J Moore 10-9 ... A Charlton 85
9 30 POLLY LEACH 8 (M Willey) G Ham 10-9 ... S Mackey 92
10 STAY WITH ME BABY 31F (Adept Ltd) D Elsworth 10-9 ... P Holley —

BETTING: Evens Marco Magnifico, 4-1 Jolis Absent, 6-1 Stay With Me Baby, 8-1 Hot Off The Press, Mohaya, 12-1 Polly Leach, 16-1 La Posada, Moshaajir, 25-1 Storm Falcon, 33-1 Frank Knows.

1992: ARCTIC CIRCLE 11-7 S McNeill (8-11 fav) Miss A Whitfield 7 ran

FORM FOCUS

HOT OFF THE PRESS 8l 2nd to General Chase in juvenile hurdle at Carlisle (2m 1l, good). MOHAYA 8l 6th to Mr Geneaology in juvenile hurdle at Cheltenham (2m, good). STORM FALCON 60l 10th to Wings Cove in juvenile hurdle at Kempton (2m, good). LA POSADA 30l 4th to Satin Dancer in juvenile hurdle at Newbury (2m, good). POLLY LEACH 28l 19th to Beat The Bagman in juvenile hurdle at Exeter (2m 2l, good to firm).
Selection: MOHAYA

2.05 STEEL PLATE AND SECTIONS YOUNG CHASERS QUALIFIER (£2,827: 2m 3f 110yd) (9 runners) — BBC1

1 0312-1F MINE'S AN ACE 14 (F,S) (D Barons) D Barons 6-11-9 ... J Frost 89
2 FF111-2 GANDOUGE GLEN 19 (F,G) (Mrs S Embiricos) J Gifford 6-11-5 ... D Murphy 92
3 PP2113- GHIA GNEUIAGH 188 (G,S) (Mrs S Scott) N Twiston-Davies 7-11-5 ... D Bridgwater —
4 623381- GINGER TRISTAN 198 (G) (Mrs C Nolley) D Grissell 7-11-5 ... Peter Hobbs —
5 3/12023- GIVEITAGO 218 (G) (Mrs R Whetherly) A Turnell 7-11-5 ... S McNeill —
6 241P-6P LAVALIGHT 17 (F) (L Phillips) R Hodges 6-11-5 ... W Irvine —
7 311120- RUN UP THE FLAG 268 (F,G) (Pell-mell Partners) J Gifford 6-11-5 ... P Hide (5) —
8 054-134 STAUNCH RIVAL 14 (G,S) (C Humphry) G Thorner 6-11-5 ... J Railton 64
9 2F160-2 THE GLOW 14 (G) (Mrs T Brown) D Elsworth 5-11-4 ... P Holley [TT]

BETTING: 3-1 The Glow, 7-2 Gandouge Glen, 9-2 Ghia Gneuiagh, 5-1 Run Up The Flag, 6-1 Mine's An Ace, 8-1 Giveitago, 10-1 Ginger Tristan, 16-1 Staunch Rival, 33-1 Lavalight.

1992: RETAIL RUNNER 7-11-5 D Murphy (7-1) J Gifford 8 ran

FORM FOCUS

MINE'S AN ACE best recent form when beat Strong Views 2½l in 8-runner novice chase at Cheltenham (2m 110yd, good to firm). GANDOUGE GLEN 1¾l 2nd of 8 to Yellow Spring in novice chase at Fontwell (2m 3l, good to soft). GHIA GNEUIAGH best form last season when beating Equity Card 6l in 9-runner novice hurdle at Bangor (2m 7l 110yd, good). GINGER TRISTAN beat Welsh Cottage 2l in 17-runner novice hurdle at Fontwell (2m 6l, good). GIVEITAGO 3l 3rd of 10 to Sorbiera in novice hurdle at Newbury (2m 5l, good to firm) last season. THE GLOW head 2nd of 8 to Lackendara in Kempton (2m, good) novice chase with STAUNCH RIVAL (same terms) 20l 4th and MINE'S AN ACE falling.
Selection: THE GLOW

2.35 UNITED HOUSE CONSTRUCTION HANDICAP CHASE (£15,313: 2m) (6 runners) — BBC1

1 1/P6U4P- YOUNG SNUGFIT 227 (CD,F,G,S) (M Oberstein) O Sherwood 9-11-10 ... J Osborne 92
2 111113- STORM ALERT 226 (D,G,S) (Lt Col W Whetherly) A Turnell 7-11-1 ... S McNeill 98
3 41132-4 BOUTZDAROFF 30 (D,F,G) (Robinson Publications Ltd) Jimmy Fitzgerald 11-10-7 D Byrne [TT]
4 03412-1 BILLY BATHGATE 14 (D,F,G,S) (M Buckley) N Henderson 7-10-7 ... M A Fitzgerald 90
5 126F-21 ATLAAL 7 (CD,F,G,S) (O Donnelly) J Jenkins 8-10-7 ... S Smith Eccles 87
6 U44-33U SETTER COUNTRY 14 (CD,F,G,S) (Mrs A Tostaw) R Hodges 9-10-7 ... W Irvine 85

Long handicap: Billy Bathgate 10-0, Atlaal 9-9, Setter Country 9-6.

BETTING: 13-8 Storm Alert, 9-4 Billy Bathgate, 11-2 Boutzdaroff, 13-2 Young Snugfit, 8-1 Atlaal, 16-1 Setter Country.

1992: KATABATIC 9-12-0 S McNeill (2-1) A Turnell 6 ran

FORM FOCUS

STORM ALERT 3l 3rd of 12 to Space Fair in handicap chase at Cheltenham (2m 110yd, good to firm) last season. BOUTZDAROFF best form last season when 5l 2nd of 5 to Montpelier Lad in handicap chase at Cartmel (2m 1f 110yd, good to firm). BILLY BATHGATE beat General James 8l in 7-runner handicap chase at Kempton (2m, good), with SETTER COUNTRY unseating his rider. ATLAAL beat Blustery Fellow 1½l in 7-runner handicap chase at Huntingdon (2m 110yd, good to firm). SETTER COUNTRY best recent form when 14l 3rd of 5 to Iama Zulu in handicap chase at Exeter (2m 1f 110yd, good to soft).
Selection: BOUTZDAROFF

3.05 HAIRY MARY NOVICES HURDLE (£2,944: 2m 110yd) (16 runners)

1 0/433- ARMATEUR 199 (Major H Porter) J McConnochie 5-11-0 ... G Bradley 50
2 5303P-4 BOLD STREET BLUES 9 (Dr G Maradlin) J Bennett 6-11-0 ... R Greene 50
3 101- LARGE ACTION 189 (G,S) (B Stewart-Brown) O Sherwood 5-11-0 ... J Osborne —
4 6- MEDINAS SWAN SONG 320 (C Perry) R Hodges 5-11-0 ... J Frost —
5 0- MELLION PRIDE 206 (St Mellion Estates Ltd) J Old 5-11-0 ... T Grantham —
6 36P0-0 ROSS GRAHAM 17 (C Hassbery, A Wilton) Mrs B Waring 5-11-0 ... G Morgan 73
7 20/2522- TEXAN TYCOON 163F (L Randall) R Akehurst 5-11-0 ... D Bridgwater 75
8 0 WATERBEACH VILLAGE 8 (J Whyte) J Whyte 5-11-0 ... Mr M Gingell (7) —
9 06208-4 HIGH MIND 7 (J Wilson) Miss L Siddall 4-10-13 ... M A Fitzgerald 52
10 42300- IVOR'S FLUTTER 9F (W Perry) D Elsworth 4-10-13 ... P Holley 88
11 MOVE A MINUTE 103F (Mrs T Brown) J Gifford 4-10-13 ... P Hide (5) —
12 5- MR JERVIS 256 (Felix Rosenstiel's Widow & Son) J Gifford 4-10-13 ... D Murphy —
13 33- NADJATI 212 (T Whitley) D Gandolfo 4-10-13 ... S McNeill [TT]
14 50- SQUIRE SILK 231 (R Ogden) A Turnell 4-10-13 ... L Harvey —
15 55U-F22 MAMALAMA 4 (J Bridger) J Bridger 5-10-9 ... D O'Sullivan (3) 54
16 DIAMOND TOPPING (G Hannes) R Alner 4-10-8 ... S Earle —

BETTING: 6-4 Nadjati, 11-4 Texan Tycoon, 7-2 Ivor's Flutter, 5-1 Large Action, 10-1 Squire Silk, 12-1 others.

1992: SATIN LOVER 4-11-3 G McCourt (4-6 fav) N Tinkler 11 ran

3.35 BAGSHOT HANDICAP CHASE (£8,208: 3m 110yd) (7 runners)

1 1043F0- ROYAL ATHLETE 188 (CD,F,G,S) (G & L Johnson) Mrs J Pitman 10-12-0 . D Gallagher 95
2 3P011-3 TOPSHAM BAY 28 (D,F,G,S) (Sir Eric Parker) D Barons 10-11-6 ... J Frost 97
3 43P22-1 ESPY 28 (CD,F,G,S) (R A Bott (Wigmore St) Ltd) C Brooks 10-10-12 ... G Bradley 95
4 1112U-2 DAKYNS BOY 28 (CD,BF,G,S) (A Parker) N Twiston-Davies 8-10-9 ... D Bridgwater 95
5 1P442P- LATENT TALENT 196 (CD,G,S) (C Heath) S Sherwood 9-10-4 ... M Richards 91
6 16/45P-1 SPRINGALEAK 28 (D,F,G,S) (Rashleigh Arms) O Sherwood 8-10-2 ... J Osborne [TT]
7 104-1P2 WONT BE GONE LONG 16 (B,D,F,G) N Henderson 11-10-0 ... M A Fitzgerald 98

Long handicap: Wont Be Gone Long 9-12.

BETTING: 9-4 Dakyns Boy, 3-1 Royal Athlete, 9-2 Espy, 5-1 Springaleak, 6-1 Topsham Bay, 12-1 Latent Talent, 14-1 Wont Be Gone Long.

1992: LATENT TALENT 8-10-13 J Osborne (6-1) S Sherwood 9 ran

4.10 COPPER HORSE HANDICAP HURDLE (£4,123: 2m 110yd) (4 runners)

1 F/11245- BIG BEAT 245 (D,S) (R Richards) D Elsworth 5-11-10 ... P Holley 92
2 P2313-1 CHANGE THE ACT 19 (D,F,G,S) (C Heath) O Sherwood 8-11-6 ... J Osborne [TT]
3 52105-P INDIAN RUN 14 (D,G) (P Slade) R Hodges 4-11-5 ... M A Fitzgerald 94
4 51311/0 SUNSET AND VINE 14 (C,G,S) (Sunset & Vine Plc) S Dow 6-10-11 ... H Davies —

BETTING: 5-4 Change The Act, 6-4 Big Beat, 7-1 Indian Run, Sunset And Vine.

1992: BAYDON STAR 5-10-13 R Dunwoody (2-1 fav) D Nicholson 8 ran

NEWMARKET

THUNDERER

1.10 Herr Trigger
1.40 **BARBAROJA (nap)**
2.10 Mellottie
2.45 Mithl Al Hawa
3.15 Shintillo
3.50 Wijdan
4.20 Braveboy

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 2.45 Saseedo. 3.15 **SHINTILLO** (nap).
The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 1.10 **HERR TRIGGER**.

GOING: GOOD — DRAW: NO ADVANTAGE — SIS

1.10 SUFFOLK SELLING NURSERY HANDICAP (2-Y-O: £3,548: 1m) (25 runners)

101 (24) 200416 SHERIFF 15 (F) (C Brown) J Hills 9-7 ... B Doyle (3) 93
102 (5) 050320 BURES 24 (J Wimbs) M Tompkins 9-6 ... S Mulvey (7) 92
103 (18) 015300 ONCE MORE FOR LUCK 16 (S) (C Buckley) Mrs M Reveley 9-1 ... K Fallon 87
104 (9) 043 DEER IN THE GLEN 33 (S Dinsmore) P Haslam 9-1 ... J Weaver 80
105 (12) 5000 CLASSICAL 16 (D Allen) B Meehan 8-10 ... B Rouse 80
106 (17) 4006 RED TAR 25 (The Scottish Connection) W Muir 8-10 ... A Munro 80
107 (19) 00030 KILLING TIME 25 (B) (MHG Systems Ltd) R Hannon 8-10 ... J Reid 89
108 (22) 030100 GLORIETTE 8 (S) (R Guest) R Guest 8-10 ... R Cochrane 95
109 (3) 000 ZOES PET 50 (Mrs S Shelley) G Eden 8-10 ... J Williams —
110 (11) 060550 KNIGHTRIDER 44 (P De Weck) C James 8-6 ... T Quinn 85
111 (21) 000040 CHANTRY BEATH 9 (Mrs J Kirk Scott) C Thornton 8-6 ... G Duffield 86
112 (25) 000600 SWEET CAROLINE 15 (Mrs C Guignard) Pat Mitchell 8-5 ... B Russell (5) 86
113 (14) 050 RIVER JUNCTION 12 (C Bothway) P Haslam 8-5 ... D McCabe (5) 94
114 (13) 50050 CRUISING CHICK 9 (Mrs A Norton) S Norton 8-4 ... D Gibbs (7) 80
115 (15) 45001 HERR TRIGGER 44 (B,D,G) (Mrs C Fleming) J Scargill 8-3 ... K Rutter (5) [TT]
116 (6) 020156 FOREVER BLUSHING 38 (F) (Miss M Bryant) P Butler 8-1 ... P McCabe (5) 88
117 (10) 06006 SHARONE 39 (G Turnbull Ltd) M Camacho 8-0 ... G Bardwell 89
118 (20) 400000 KOONOONA LADY 9 (Mrs A Hamilton) A Jarvis 8-0 ... D Wright (5) 93
119 (2) 405025 STORM HEIGHTS 40 (The Tangoers) M Brittain 7-13 ... J Lowe 87
120 (23) 0060 MR MORIARTY 16 (J Sims) M Jarvis 7-11 ... N Carlisle 89
121 (16) 000 ARIAN SPIRIT 9 (Mrs R Brown) W Musson 7-9 ... A Mackay 80
122 (1) 620006 BROUGHTONS PARTNER 26 (B Fulton) W Musson 7-9 ... N Adams 93
123 (8) 006 NUIN-TARA 12 (G Amey) Mrs A Knight 7-9 ... D Harrison 82
124 (7) 300000 SOUTHDOWN GIRL 51 (Mrs B Armstrong) P Butler 7-7 ... A Garth (5) 88
125 (4) 0000 MY SONG OF SONGS 12 (A Brown) R Hoad 7-7 ... J Quinn 80

Long handicap: My Song Of Songs 7-4

BETTING: 5-1 Herr Trigger, 6-1 Deer In The Glen, Gloriette, 8-1 Bures, Sheriff, 10-1 Chantry Beath, Killing Time, 12-1 Red Tar, Storm Heights, 14-1 Sweet Caroline, Forever Blushing, 16-1 Once More For Luck, 20-1 others.

1.40 SPORTING LIFE ZETLAND STAKES (Listed race: 2-Y-O: £8,140: 1m 2f) (10 runners) — C4

201 (4) 312101 BARBAROJA 9 (C,G,S) Jimmy FitzGerald 9-0 ... W R Swinburn 98
202 (6) 00 ACERBUS DULCIS 18 (W Gredley) C Brittain 8-9 ... M Hills 74
203 (5) 1 DOUBLE TRIGGER 35 (G) (R Huggins) M Johnston 8-9 ... J Weaver [TT]
204 (3) 20 MR ARTISTIC 31 (G Mazza) P Kelleway 8-9 ... M Roberts 82
205 (10) 521 MUWAFIK 26 (D,S) (H Al-Maktoum) J Dunlop 8-9 ... W Carson 93
206 (1) 01 PAMPERED GUEST 60 (F) (J Pearce) M Bell 8-9 ... T Quinn 91
207 (8) SAILS LEGEND (Mrs G Davison) R Simpson 8-9 ... A Munro —
208 (9) 310552 THE FLYING PHANTOM 9 (F) (P Betts (Holdings) Ltd) M Tompkins 8-9 R Cochrane 98
209 (2) 0232 BRENTWOOD 8 (Shaikh Essa Bin Mubarak) R Hannon 8-4 ... R Hills 96
210 (7) 43303 PHYLIAN 40 (Mrs M Southcott) A Hide 8-4 ... K Fallon 84

BETTING: 5-2 Barbaroja, 3-1 Double Trigger, 9-2 The Flying Phantom, 6-1 Muwafik, 7-1 Brentwood, 10-1 Pampered Guest, 16-1 Phylian, 25-1 Mr Artistic, 33-1 others.

1992: BOB'S RETURN 8-12 P Robinson (14-1) M Tompkins 9 ran

FORM FOCUS

BARBAROJA beat THE FLYING PHANTOM (5lb better off) 2l in listed race at Pontefract (1m, good to soft). DOUBLE TRIGGER beat Golden Hello 10l in maiden at Redcar (1m 1l, good). MUWAFIK beat Golden Hello 2l in maiden at Pontefract (1m 2l, soft). PAMPERED GUEST beat West Buoyant short-head in maiden at Epsom (1m 114yd, good to firm). BRENTWOOD 1l 2nd of 14 to Cowgach in maiden at Doncaster (1m, good).
Selection: BARBAROJA

2.10 BEN MARSHALL STAKES (Listed race: £9,768: 1m) (9 runners) — C4

301 (7) 314120 EUROLINK THUNDER 35 (C,D,F,G,S) J Dunlop 3-9-1 ... Pat Eddery 92
302 (8) 1-15060 MELLOTTIE 28 (C,D,F) (Mrs J Fulton) Mrs M Reveley 8-9-1 ... J Lowe 90
303 (9) 5-01014 FRAAM 16 (C,D,G,S) (Maktoum Al Maktoum) A Scott 4-8-12 ... W R Swinburn [TT]
304 (5) 405505 GARDEN OF HEAVEN 13 (D,G,S) (B Voak) C Brittain 4-8-12 ... T Quinn 96
305 (4) 024444 SPANISH STORM 7J (V,C,G) (The Storm Syndicate) S Woods 4-8-12 ... W Woods 84
306 (6) 25-0011 LAP OF LUXURY 71 (D,F,G) (T Hill-Wood) W Jarvis 4-8-10 ... M Tebbutt 92
307 (3) 115 LOWER EGYPT 7 (C,D,G) (Shaikh Mohammed) J Gosden 3-8-9 ... M Roberts 92
308 (2) 1-644 SERIOUS 7 (C,G) (Mrs D Haynes) M Stoute 3-8-9 ... R Cochrane 81
309 (1) 150426 JETBEEAH 15 (D,G) (B Mussabah) J Fanshawe 3-8-4 ... G Duffield 87

BETTING: 2-1 Fraam, 7-2 Lap Of Luxury, 4-1 Mellottie, 8-1 Lower Egypt, Serious, 10-1 others.

1992: INNER CITY 3-9-1 L Dettori (8-11 fav) L Cumani 9 ran

FORM FOCUS

EUROLINK THUNDER 1l 2nd of 7 to Asema in group III Desmond Stakes at the Curragh (1m, yielding) on penultimate start. MELLOTTIE 12l 7th of 33 to Penny Drops here (1m 1l, good to soft) in the Cambridgeshire. FRAAM about 4l 4th of 7 to Catrail in group II Challenge Stakes here (7l, good to soft). LAP OF LUXURY beat Reine De Neige 1l in listed race at Sandown (1m, good to firm). SERIOUS about 2½l 4th of 8 to Hall Term in conditions race at Doncaster (7l, good), with LOWER EGYPT (same terms) ¾l 5th. JETBEEAH 2½l 2nd of 12 to Andromaque in handicap at Ascot (1m, good to soft) on penultimate start.
Selection: EUROLINK THUNDER

2.45 ROYSTON STAKES (£6,570: 7f) (6 runners) — C4

401 (6) 125-231 SASEEDO 30 (C,G) (S Fustok) W O'Gorman 3-9-10 ... J Williams 89
402 (2) 162453 LACERTA 7 (D,F,G) (R Sangster) P Chapple-Hyam 3-9-5 ... J Reid 92
403 (4) 0-26202 MITHL AL HAWA 45 (G) (M Suhail) J Fanshawe 3-9-2 ... W R Swinburn [TT]
404 (5) 0 WILLINGLY 7 (H Candy) H Candy 3-9-2 ... C Rutter —
405 (1) 0 DUMAANI 14 (H Al-Maktoum) J Dunlop 2-8-5 ... W Carson 75
406 (3) 623012 NAKITA 73 (F) (Theobalds Stud) C Allen 2-8-0 ... N Carlisle 68

BETTING: 13-8 Mithl Al Hawa, 5-2 Lacerta, 9-2 Saseedo, 7-1 Dumaani, 12-1 Nakita, 20-1 Willingly.

1992: CATRAIL 2-8-1 W Carson (4-1) J Gosden 9 ran

FORM FOCUS

SASEEDO beat Dark Eyed Lady 1½l in 16-runner handicap here (5l, good). LACERTA head and neck 3rd of 8 to Hall Term in conditions race at Doncaster (7l, good). MITHL AL HAWA 1½l 2nd of 6 to Storm Canyon in conditions race at Yarmouth (6l, good to soft). DUMAANI 7½l 8th of 9 to Indhar in conditions race over course and distance (good). NAKITA 6l 2nd of 8 to One On One in nursery at Yarmouth (6l, good).
Selection: MITHL AL HAWA

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Rnrs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
P Chapple-Hyam	14	68	20.6	Pat Eddery	97	519	18.7
W Hern	20	98	20.4	W R Swinburn	68	429	15.9
R Charlton	13	64	20.3	W Carson	86	572	15.0
Jimmy Fitzgerald	5	28	17.9	M Hills	40	282	14.2
M Stoute	51	297	17.2	M Roberts	67	556	12.1
D Morris	5	29	17.2	C Hodgson	4	35	11.4

GUIDE TO OUR RACECARD

103 (12) 0-0432 GOOD TIMES 74 (CD,BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 9-10-0 ... B West (4) 88

Racecard number. Draw in brackets. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing; J if jumps, F if flat. (B — blinkers V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

3.15 LADBROKE AUTUMN HANDICAP (£23,677: 1m) (30 runners) — C4

501 (24) 053522 TAUFAN BLU 23 (B,F,G,S) (Hambleton Lodge Ltd) B Beasley 4-9-13 ... J Tate (5) 95
502 (12) 103505 SHOW FAITH 10 (CD,G,S) (I Wight) R Hannon 3-9-7 ... L Piggott 92
503 (10) 5-20002 REALITIES 29 (G) (S Kamel) G Harwood 3-9-7 ... R Hills 95
504 (5) 001-263 SHINTILLO 16 (BF,S) (Teknagro S R L) L Cumani 3-9-5 ... R Cochrane 95
505 (25) 500253 TISSISAT 14 (V,D,F,G) (U Schwarzenbach) I Balding 4-9-4 ... M Hills 95
506 (8) 031135 CAMBARA 29 (D,F) (Shaikh Mohammed) M Stoute 3-9-4 ... M Roberts 93
507 (7) 0/1150-0 COLOUR SERGEANT 77 (D,F,G) (P Leonard) Lord Huntingdon 5-9-3 ... A Munro 88
508 (28) 040210 WAINWRIGHT 16 (D,F) (Shaikh Mohammed) J Gosden 4-9-3 ... W R Swinburn 95
509 (9) 211214 HI NOD 14 (BF,F,G) (B Nordan) M Camacho 3-9-0 ... Paul Eddery 98
510 (16) 4-56600 LAW COMMISSION 77 (C,F) (R Tooth) D Elsworth 3-8-0 ... W Newnes 94
511 (4) 550001 SAGEBRUSH ROLLER 10 (S) (A Collins) J Watts 5-9-0 ... G Duffield 97
512 (19) 321131 SAIFAN 14 (B,CD,F,G) (Mrs R Hawes) D Morris 4-9-0 ... C Hodgson (3) 95
513 (14) 301120 HE'S A KING 28 (D,F,G) (Lady Swaythling) J Dunlop 3-8-13 ... T Quinn 93
514 (20) 4-06480 ANONYMOUS 30 (S) (Mrs J Hislop) C Brittain 3-8-13 ... B Doyle (3) 84
515 (23) 15-3032 BUROOJ 14 (S) (H Al-Maktoum) D Morley 3-8-13 ... W Carson 98
516 (27) 24-0680 ISAIAH 7 (C,F,S) (Miss C Spurner) Mrs J Cecil 4-8-13 ... J Quinn 94
517 (22) 010040 HOB GREEN 35 (C,F,G) (P Leonard) Mrs J Ramsden 4-8-13 ... K Fallon 98
518 (21) 000001 NORFOLK HERO 16 (B,C,G,S) (Lady D M Watts) D Murray Smith 3-8-11 Pat Eddery 95
519 (15) 0-23653 ARANY 10 (D,S) (Mrs P Kalman) M Tompkins 6-8-11 ... S Mulvey (7) 96
520 (26) 003002 SAND TABLE 14 (G) (Mrs J Sutcliffe) J Sutcliffe 4-8-10 ... J Reid 85
521 (2) 302001 PRENONAMOSS 14 (CD,F,G) (Mrs W Oram) D Arbuthnot 5-8-7 ... J Williams 98
522 (3) 506600 HIGHLAND MAGIC 10 (G,S) (Miss N Carroll) M Fetherston-Godley 5-8-6 F Norton 96
523 (11) 153500 SWEET MIGNONETTE 4 (D,F,G) (R Whitehead) Mrs M Reveley 5-8-4 ... J Lowe 95
524 (30) 000005 VELOCE 11 (D,F,G) (M Gonzalez) A Bailey 5-8-4 ... A Mackay 96
525 (6) 436223 ARAK 14 (F) (D Crossland) M Johnston 5-8-3 ... J Weaver 98
526 (13) 114211 SET THE FASHION 49 (V,D,F,G,S) (The Queen) Lord Huntingdon 4-8-3 D Harrison 96
527 (17) 051006 BATTLE COLOURS 12 (D,F,G) (T Fawcett) Mrs J Ramsden 4-8-2 ... B Russell (5) 97
528 (18) 011000 DASWAKI 14 (CD,F,G,S) (D Allen) G L Moore 5-8-2 ... M Fenton (3) 97
529 (1) 511402 COMANCHE COMPANION 10 (D,G,S) T Naughton 3-8-2 ... A Garth (5) [TT]
530 (29) 51-0050 ROSE ELEGANCE 14 (C,D,F,G) (E Badger) D O'Neill 4-7-10 ... D Wright (5) 89

BETTING: 8-1 Shintillo, 9-1 Saifan, 10-1 Tissisat, Sand Table, Prenonamoss, 11-1 Hi Nod, Burooj, 12-1 Set The Fashion, 14-1 Norfolk Hero, Comanche Companion, 16-1 Realities, Cambara, Wainwright, 20-1 others.

1992: CAMBRIAN 3-8-7 G Duffield (33-1) Mrs J Cecil 18 ran

FORM FOCUS

TAUFAN BLU ¾l 2nd of 9 to Amazing Feat in handicap at York (7l, heavy). REALITIES 3l 2nd of 18 to Fraam in handicap here (7l, good), with CAMBARA (2lb better off) about 1½l 5th. SAGEBRUSH ROLLER beat COMANCHE COMPANION (1lb better off) ½l in 16-runner handicap at Chester (7l 122yd, soft), with ARANY (6lb better off) 8l 3rd and HIGHLAND MAGIC (8lb better off) 23½l 11th. SAIFAN beat SAND TABLE (1lb better off) head in 21-runner handicap over course and distance (good), with TISSISAT (2lb better off) ½l 3rd, HI NOD (3lb better off) ¾l 4th and SWEET MIGNONETTE (6lb better off) about 4l 9th. SHINTILLO (later demoted to 3rd) beat NORFOLK HERO (1lb better off, later promoted to 1st) ½l in 28-runner handicap here (7l, good to soft), with ISAIAH (5lb better off) about 2l 6th and VELOCE (6lb better off) ¾l 8th. PRENONAMOSS beat BUROOJ (1lb better off) neck in 29-runner handicap over course and distance (good), with ARAK (4lb better off) 1½l 3rd, ARANY (4lb better off) 1¾l 5th, ROSE ELEGANCE (6lb better off) about 3½l 11th and DASWAKI (7lb better off) 8½l 24th.
Selection: SAND TABLE

3.50 EBF BALATON LODGE MAIDEN STAKES (2-Y-O fillies: £5,205: 7f) (19 runners)

601 (3) CANDANE (Mark Tompkins Racing) M Tompkins 8-11 ... S Mulvey (7) —
602 (9) CHANSON D'AVRIL (Snowdrop Stud Co Ltd) C Cyzer 8-11 ... A Clark —
603 (14) COSTLY (L Ward) R Hannon 8-11 ... J Reid —
604 (1) COVEN STAR (Mrs R Hawes) D Morris 8-11 ... C Hodgson (3) —
605 (5) 06226 CRAZY FOR YOU 26 (V,BF) (Club 7 Racing) M Channon 8-11 ... T Quinn [TT]
606 (7) DAILY SPORT CLUB (Mrs R Smith) R Curtis 8-11 ... G Bardwell —
607 (4) FOOLS TREASURE (M Barker) P McBride 8-11 ... R Hills —
608 (12) INTERIM (K Abdulla) R Charlton 8-11 ... Pat Eddery —
609 (8) ISCA (Lord Howard de Walden) W Jarvis 8-11 ... M Tebbutt —
610 (16) 00 LADY VALENSINA 15 (Food Brokers Ltd) D Elsworth 8-11 ... J Williams —
611 (2) LITTLE SISTER (Lord Weinstock) M Stoute 8-11 ... Paul Eddery —
612 (6) MIRADOR (Mrs K Curtis) R Curtis 8-11 ... J Lowe —
613 (19) MUNNAYA (Maktoum Al Maktoum) M Stoute 8-11 ... W R Swinburn —
614 (11) PHYLLODE (Lord Howard de Walden) W Jarvis 8-11 ... A McGlone —
615 (10) RED OCTOBER (Sir Philip Oppenheimer) G Wragg 8-11 ... M Hills —
616 (18) TELOPEA (Mrs M Clark) H Candy 8-11 ... W Newnes —
617 (15) 50 TRYPANIS 26 (BF) (Mrs C Lilley) G Wragg 8-11 ... G Duffield —
618 (13) 3 WIJDAN 16 (H Al-Maktoum) W Hern 8-11 ... W Carson 90
619 (17) ZORETTE (Mana Al Maktoum) M Stoute 8-11 ... W Woods —

BETTING: 3-1 Interim, 4-1 Munnaya, 9-2 Wijdan, 6-1 Red October, 7-1 Zorette, 10-1 Costly, 14-1 Phyllode, 16-1 Chanson D'Avril, Trypanis, 20-1 others.

1992: FAYFA 8-11 A McGlone (14-1) H Cecil 24 ran

4.20 BURROUGH GREEN HANDICAP (£4,532: 7f) (28 runners)

1 (1) 03-0200 EASY LINE 38 (C,F,G,S) (D Croft) P Felden 10-9-12 ... G Duffield 84
2 (7) 512000 AL MOULOUKI 18 (D,F,S) (G Jabra) J Payne 3-9-11 ... R Cochrane 90
3 (6) 026351 BELFRY GREEN 53 (D,F) (J Kelsey-Fry) C Horgan 3-9-11 ... R Hills 85
4 (18) 058330 EURO FESTIVAL 28 (D,F,G) (C Price) Miss L Siddall 4-9-8 ... D McCabe (5) 95
5 (20) 046550 PETRACO 12 (G,S) (B Hampson) N Smith 5-9-5 ... S D Williams 92
6 (13) 6-426 POCKET PIECE 53 (BF) (Shaikh Mohammed) M Stoute 3-9-5 ... M Roberts 90
7 (3) 1040 CAVATINA 45 (D,F) (Hargate Stud and Racing Ltd) T Donnelly 3-9-3 ... N Adams 90
8 (14) 450050 HELIOS 9 (D,F) (Mrs C Painting) R Simpson 5-9-3 ... W Carson 93
9 (17) 312006 GREAT HALL 9 (G) (P Dimmock) P Cundell 4-9-3 ... J Williams 94
10 (23) 231202 TEANARCO 9 (D,F,G,S) (B Symonds) P Murphy 5-9-1 ... S Drowne (5) 94
11 (2) 2-00103 CHIEF OF STAFF 12 (D,F,G) (The Exclusive Partnership) J Pearce 4-9-0 M Wigham 90
12 (22) 615006- SALISONG 26J (D,G,S) (J Franklin) I Campbell 4-8-13 ... C Hodgson (3) 87
13 (26) 530300 PRAIRIE GROVE 9 (B,D,G,S) (G Gleadell) R Hannon 3-8-12 ... J Reid 91
14 (16) 3325/0-0 YOUNG DUKE 9 (D,F) (C Budd) Mrs S Williams 5-8-12 ... A Clark 88
15 (5) 002010 BRAVEBOY 14 (CD,S) (Dowager Lady Beaverbrook) C Brittain 5-8-12 B Doyle (3) 95
16 (19) 025510 NITOUCHE 14 (D,G,S) (D Shekalis) A Hide 3-8-10 ... K Fallon 95
17 (8) 0-00200 ROCALITY 14 (D,F,G,S) (G Mizel) M Channon 4-8-9 ... W Woods 89
18 (25) 40-0300 TIMOTHY CASEY 9 (T Maycock) Mrs M McCourt 3-8-8 ... A Tucker 92
19 (10) 050540 SURREY RACING 72 (CD,F,G) (K Higson) G L Moore 5-8-8 ... B Rouse 96
20 (24) 236000 RISE UP SINGING 16 (B,CD,F,G,S) (Mrs R Brown) W Musson 5-8-8 ... Pat Eddery 97
21 (12) 214330 PERDITION 36 (D,F) (G Collister) J Hills 3-8-5 ... D Harrison 92
22 (28) 230001 WATERLORD 11 (D,S) (Mrs F Janses) M Heaton-Ellis 3-8-4 ... Paul Eddery [TT]
23 (21) 410034 LADY SABO 33 (F) (J Purcell) R Spicer 4-8-0 ... A Garth (5) 93
24 (9) 244044 CAPTAIN MARMALADE 7J (G) (Mrs C Whitwood) D Thom 4-7-13 ... J Lowe 91
25 (11) 052000 LEGEND DULAC 14 (D,B,S) (T Wells) J Harris 4-7-12 ... J Quinn 92
26 (27) 213F00 LORD ALFIE 11 (D,F,G) (K Gomm) B Meehan 4-7-12 ... N Carlisle 94
27 (4) 430201 GUESSTIMATION 40 (D,S) (Quintet Partnership) J Pearce 4-7-11 ... G Bardwell 92
28 (15) 06-0064 ABIGAILS BOY 75 (S) (D Johnson) J Scargill 4-7-10 ... D Wright (5) 94

BETTING: 15-2 Teanarco, 8-1 Pocket Piece, 10-1 Belfry Green, Nitouche, 11-1 Rocality, 12-1 Perdition, 14-1 Waterlord, Guesstimation, 16-1 Euro Festival, Great Hall, Chief Of Staff, Braveboy, 20-1 others.

1992: SURREY RACING 4-9-4 B Rouse (20-1) G Lewis 20 ran

COURSE SPECIALISTS

ASCOT: Trainers: Jimmy Fitzgerald, 6 winners from 14 runners, 42.9%; Mrs J Pitman, 10 from 39, 25.6%; R Hodges, 4 from 16, 25.0%; O Sherwood, 10 from 43, 23.3%; N Twiston-Davies, 9 from 43, 20.9%; C Brooks, 6 from 34, 17.6%; D Elsworth, 7 from 44, 15.9%; R Akehurst, 6 from 42, 14.3%. Jockeys: W Irvine, 3 winners from 10 rides, 30.0%; J Osborne, 17 from 73, 23.3%; L Harvey, 6 from 31, 19.4%; J Frost, 8 from 48, 16.7%; S McNeill, 3 from 16, 16.7%; Peter Hobbs, 4 from 27, 14.8%; M A Fitzgerald, 3 from 25, 12.0%; G Bradley, 4 from 34, 11.8%.

WETHERBY: Trainers: D Nicholson, 5 winners from 13 runners, 38.5%; Mrs M Reveley, 27 from 83, 32.5%; G Richards, 25 from 109, 22.9%; P Beaumont, 5 from 28, 17.9%; N Tinkler, 14 from 80, 17.5%; M H Easterby, 20 from 117, 17.1%; M Hammond, 13 from 79, 16.5%; J Johnson, 10 from 62, 16.1%. Jockeys: P Niven, 30 winners from 136 rides, 22.1%; L Wyer, 23 from 110, 20.9%; G McCourt, 21 from 104, 20.2%; A Maguire, 3 from 15, 20.0%; M Dwyer, 27 from 151, 17.9%; A S Smith, 5 from 38, 13.2%.

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Newcastle: 1.35 Coastal Express. 3.35 Lady Gwen. Newmarket: 1.10 Killing Time. 3.50 Crazy For You. 4.20 Prairie Grove.

Racing next week

MONDAY: Newcastle, Plumpton, Southwell.
TUESDAY: Redcar, Exeter.
WEDNESDAY: Bath, Haydock Park, Kelso, Uttoxeter.
THURSDAY: Doncaster, Edinburgh, Lingfield Park, Uttoxeter, Wincanton.
FRIDAY: Doncaster, Yarmouth, Hexham, Market Rasen.
SATURDAY: Doncaster, Newcastle, Chepstow, Sandown Park.
(Flat meetings in bold)

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Shaq's silent attack fills superstar vacuum

Simon Barnes reports on the basketball phenomenon who is in London to play two exhibition matches



O'Neal, the hottest property in American sport, meets the media in advance of the exhibition matches between his team, Orlando Magic, and the Atlanta Hawks. Photograph: Marc Aspland

He is the most famous person in the world, they keep telling me, but perhaps you have not heard of him. Shaquille O'Neal. Famous in the United States for playing basketball and famous in this country for being famous.

And he is over here to do both those things to the very best of his ability. "Which one's *him*?" we asked. "The tall one," somebody said. "Doesn't narrow the field a whole lot, now does it?" "No, the very tall one." No hair — Lord, you can't be a basketball superstar and have hair — stands 7ft 1in, weighs 21½st, takes size 20 shoes. Shaq.

More vital stats. He is 21 and already earning absolutely impossible sums of money. His team, Orlando Magic, pays him $6 million (about £4 million) a year, in a seven-year contract, but that is hardly worth mentioning. Only when we start talking boot-money and adverts are we into the real money.

O'Neal is the hottest property in American sport and that means, of course, world sport. Shaq and the Magic play Atlanta Hawks in exhibition games tonight and tomorrow at Wembley Arena. Do not turn up on spec. These are the most sought-after tickets in London, never mind that we Brits do not even understand the game.

But sure, the idea is the thing, and the idea is as hot, fresh, exotic and sexy as ... well, Pepsi-Cola, and we have the star of stars over here to prove it. It is the American football craze all over again. The National Bastketball Association (NBA) of the United States is purring and so is Reebok. O'Neal stands to make $30 million over the next five years by selling plimsolls.

And so the grand launch, the introduction of Shaq to the British media. At a gym in West London, there were three layers of security to talk through before you were ushered in to The Presence. What an event this was going to be.

O'Neal was shown gently to a sort of preacher's lectern in the corner of the gym and the media descended. O'Neal was, literally, cornered. It was an unenviable situation to be in. He certainly did not seem to be having a great deal of fun.

Some athletes revel in the attention. A fellow superstar, "Sir" Charles Barkley, of the Dream Team and the Phoenix Suns, never wants to leave a hot microphone. He is an unstoppable performer and an occasional talker of originality and startling sense.

O'Neal's technique is different. He stands very quiet and very still and waits for it all to end. He has the most wonderful defence: he talks very, very, very quietly. He is almost as famous for this as for being tall.

So they had provided a microphone and some amplification, but nothing like enough. There were two ways of hearing what O'Neal had to say. One was to fight your way to the front row, for you could not hear him from the second. The second was to press very close to the loudspeaker a few yards away. Either way you could catch getting on for half of what he said.

"Play hard ... wsss wsss wsss ... always listen to your coach." This was O'Neal's recitation of the five rules for success in basketball, but I gave up after two. A colleague was kind enough to fill me in. The fifth rule was "Never give up".

In the end, I realised what was happening. Shaquille O'Neal was not actually there at all. He had clearly achieved, after a single year of being a superstar, a feat that a few Indian mystics can manage after a lifetime of self-denial and prayer. O'Neal can permit his spirit to leave his body at will. His spirit was clearly swirling around in more amusing parts of the cosmos, while his body remained in Osterley, giving dumb answers to dumb questions, occasionally blinking an eye, doling out a smile.

So polite. So tall. So aware of his obligations. "Shaq, could you look at the camera and say, my name's Shaquille O'Neal and I always watch *Live and Kicking*?"

"My name's Shaquille O'Neal and I always watch *Live and Kicking*." Lord, the great quotes I got that day.

What a relief it must be for O'Neal to get out onto a basketball court, to wreak havoc, as Barkley likes to put it. Because O'Neal can play all right. Basketball is a team sport that lends itself perfectly to the cult of the superstar, the single person around whom the team revolves, in whose presence the team has its being.

Magic Johnson retired, having tested HIV positive. Larry Bird retired. Michael Jordan, the biggest star of them all, had stepped aside. There was a superstar vacuum and the NBA needs colossal stars or its newly established position of the world's sexiest sporting competition totters. Try telling the NBA that no player is bigger than the game. They will laugh at you.

Enter O'Neal. A giant but a wizard with a basketball as well. In his first season, he turned Orlando Magic from no-hopers to one of the top sides — and yes, one of the biggest audience-pullers. Television loves him, therefore the world does.

And so do sellers of fizzy pop. Pepsi are paying him $15 million to star in commercials and all the time, O'Neal remains utterly, perfectly enigmatic. I wonder what he was thinking. Hell, I wonder what on earth he was saying. But I was there, grandchildren, and I clearly saw his lips move. "Play hard ... wsss wsss wsss ... always listen to your coach ..."

'Tired' Chinese scare off leading marathon rivals

BY DAVID POWELL, ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT

THIS time last year, two scientists from the University of California were laughed out of the lab by the athletics cognoscenti when they said that, by the end of the decade, the world's fastest marathon time might be held by a woman. Bryan Whipp and Susan Ward, from the university's school of medicine, may be offered some encouragement for their theory tomorrow morning.

While it remains unthinkable to all but Whipp and Ward that women may overtake men one day, the advances made by female Chinese have opened a debate on whether women distance runners have been underachieving. If, as Ma Junren, the coach to the record-breaking athletes, insists, no drugs have been taken to assist performance, Ingrid Kristiansen, Grete Waitz and Liz McColgan can consider themselves fortunate to have had their day at a time when women's distance running was embryonic.

It is only in the last 11 years that the 10,000 metres and the marathon have become Olympic, world, European and Commonwealth championship events for women; only 21 years since the Olympics introduced anything for them over 800 metres. As the best five athletes from Ma's elite squad of 18 go to the line tomorrow for World Cup marathon in San Sebastián, Spain, there will be a sense of anticipation that a woman will break 2hr 20min for the first time.

Ma insists not, that his athletes are tired after a long season. They are in San Sebastián, apparently, for the experience of competition and, to show they are not afraid of drug-testing. Ma has even volunteered his athletes for blood-testing, which can trace drug use over a longer period than urine sampling can.

But Ma's propensity for verbal trickery was evidenced by his claim that caterpillar fungus tonic was one reason for his athletes' success. Later, he claimed to have been joking. Can we really believe, as he has been saying this week, that a world best is "impossible" in San Sebastián and that "all the athletes are very tired"? That said, even his athletes cannot keep up superior performances indefinitely.

Kristiansen has lost her 10,000 metres world record to Wang Junxia and believes that her world best of 2hr 21min 6sec, set in London in 1985, will not last beyond today: "I think the record will be broken by the Chinese," Kristiansen said. "I think it will be 2hr 15min. I won't be surprised if something like that happens."

The 20-year-old Wang ran a marathon in 2hr 24min 7sec shortly before winning the 10,000 metres world title in Stuttgart and setting world records for that distance and 3,000 metres in Peking last month, marks that were ratified yesterday.

All four of Wang's teammates this weekend — Qu Yunxia, Zhang Linli, Zhang Lirong and Mi Liyang — finished within two minutes of her that day. They have frightened off the opposition. Not one of the best woman marathon runners from outside China is on the start-list. If the Chinese take the top five places, they will collect $102,000 in prize-money. Enough to keep the turtle blood coming, an important dietary component, according to Ma, but expensive.

Some are willing to believe Ma's response to the drugs allegations. Ron Clarke says that their cadence is more suited to the job than any woman athlete he has seen and that pacemakers have inhibited the progression of records by Western athletes. The Chinese, he says, are not inhibited by where the records stand but run as they feel.

Ma ascribes success to high-mileage training, mainly at altitude in a full-time squad, daily acupuncture and massage and effective diet. His athletes have been selected by himself from his combing of the schools of Liaoning province. He picks from "peasant stock" because they are "good for training, used to enduring difficulties".

The men's world best is 2hr 6min 50sec, but a winning time inside 2hr 8min is not expected, though the course is flat. Richard Nerurkar is among the favourites, competing for a British team which is defending the men's World Cup. The women's event starts 15 minutes ahead of the men's. It should be quite a race to the finish between the Chinese women and some of the world's best men.



Wang: records ratified

Osborn returns to strengthen Reading

BY SYDNEY FRISKIN

PADDY Osborn returns from a brief visit to the United States to lead Reading against Southgate in the Pizza Express national hockey league tomorrow. With Keevil fully recovered from injury, Reading are at full strength, but although Osborn and Wood relaunch their attacks effectively, they will have a hard task undermining the home side's confidence.

Teddington entertain Slough with Billson a doubtful starter because of a strained hamstring and their defence will again miss Riley, whose hip injury is expected to keep him out for at least another month. However, they have talent in abundance to establish themselves as favourites for this match. A doubt about the fitness of Banton is the only problem facing Slough and if he does not play, Cox, Partington and Hargreaves will make up the middle line.

Havant, facing a difficult home match against Old Loughtonians, have lost the injured Cross for the next two weeks and Avery's hamstring trouble adds to their problems in attack. However, Nail who had been away for several weeks sitting for examinations, is now available and may be used as a forward rather than a halfback.

East Grinstead, chasing the leaders, will be at Birmingham University for the televised match against Firebrands without Peter Head, who is replaced by Ravi Virdi.

Mullins enjoys upturn in fortunes

FROM JENNY MACARTHUR IN MILLSTREET, CO CORK

COMMANDANT Gerry Mullins, an army officer based at the McGee Barracks in Dublin, ended a run of bad luck when he and the 14-year-old, Lismore, won the Heineken Accumulator here yesterday.

Carl Curtis, from Britain, on Seville, who received a last-minute invitation to compete at the show, produced the round of his life to finish in joint-second place with Peter Postelmans, of Belgium, on Omnistor Royal Moon.

Mullins, 39, who is a regular member of the Ireland team, was pleased merely to be competing at this show. At the Millstreet outdoor show in August, he was unable to ride after Lismore was cast in his box.

Two weeks later, in Biarritz, the horse had a bad fall and required 12 stitches in his chest. Last month, he took the chestnut gelding, by Sunny Light, to the Linz Show in Austria. He arrived as "sound as a trout" but promptly succumbed to colic the next day.

Yesterday, the gelding betrayed little sign of his troubled two months. Going last of the 48 starters, he had to beat the time of 35.33sec. Lismore, who won the inaugural indoor derby at Millstreet three years ago, hurtled down the arena to the sixth fence, a big spread, and recorded the winning time of 35.07sec. Despite his last-minute relegation to second place Curtis, from Goole, was delighted with the result. He brought the ten-year-old gelding to Ireland earlier this month to compete at two smaller shows.

"It seemed a waste to go home when Millstreet was on," he said, "so I rang the organisers to see if I could compete." Noel Duggan, the organiser of Millstreet, who prides himself on giving less experienced riders a chance to compete against the sport's top names, agreed. Duggan was as pleased as Curtis with the result.

Robert Smith and his fast gelding, Clover, were in the lead when Curtis entered the ring. "I just decided to go for it — I had nothing to lose," Curtis said. "On his day, he's one of the fastest horses around — but he's erratic."

In the three months Curtis has been riding Lismore, they have won seven Open classes and been placed in two Area International Trials.

Geoff Luckett and his Wembley winner, Everest Vantage, produced one of the fastest times of the day but hit the last fence. Michael Whitaker and Elton, runners-up on the opening day, hit the penultimate fence.

HEINEKEN ACCUMULATOR: 1, Lismore (Comdt G Mullins, Ire), 35.07sec; equal 2, Seville (C Curtis, GB) and Omnistor Royal Moon (P Postelmans, Bel); 4, Clover (R Smith, GB), 37.35

FOR THE RECORD

BASKETBALL

MEN'S EUROPEAN CLUBS' CHAMPIONSHIP: Semi-final series: Group A: Real Madrid (Sp) 85, Benetton Treviso (It) 76. Guildford Kings 71 (Pearson 28, Duncan 25), KV Mechelen 97 (Varner 23, Portmann 19), Snyders 15, Stuivelenis 15, Stes 11); Barcelona (Sp) 86, Limoges (Fr) 76 (ast, 71-71 at full-time); Bayer Leverkusen (Ger) 53, Olympiakos (Gr) 70. Group B: Istanbul (Tur) 81, Pau (Fr) 74; Buckler Bologna (It) 114, Cibona Zagreb (Cro) 86; Joventut Badalona (Sp) 95, Caritu (It) 87.

BUDWEISER LEAGUE: Birmingham Bullets 88 (Thomas 21, Simms 12, Harrell 12), Thames Valley Tigers 76 (Lloyd 31, Scantlebury 17, Cooke 11).

CRICKET

CASTLE CUP (first day of four): Verwoerdburg: Western Province 408-4 (G Kirsten 171 not out, A Kuiper 80, C Best 71) v Northern Transvaal. Bloemfontein: Orange Free State 339-4 (H Cronje 150, M Arthur 99) v Natal. Port Elizabeth: Border 308-9 (P Botha 111 not out, A Lawson 86) v Eastern Province. Stellenbosch: Boland 250-4 (T Lizard 110, J Commins 85 not out) v Transvaal.

SHEFFIELD SHIELD: Adelaide: Victoria 357-9 dec (W Phillips 60, M Elliott 54, D Ramshaw 58, A Dodemaide 52) and 117-4 (Elliott 58 not out), South Australia 430 (P Nobes 141, J Brayshaw 134). Perth: Western Australia 211 (J Langer 85, D Martyn 59; C McDermott 5-62); Queensland 79-2.

CYCLING

GRENOBLE: Six-day race: First day: 1, P Bincoletto (It) and G Duclos-Lassalle (Fr), 23pts; 2, D Rapp (Switz) and P Wirth (Switz), 3; D Woods (Aus) and F Emmerault (Fr), 10; 4, E Magrin (Fr) and P Tarantini (Fr) one lap behind, 16pts; 5, S Martinello (It) and M Vila (It), one lap, 13; 6, J Dauve (Bel) and R Van Slycke (Bel), one lap, 10 7, T Claveyrolat (Fr) and L Biondi (Fr), two laps, 2; 8, J-M Monin (Fr) and O Pereyras (Fr), 9 laps, 6; 9, A Marckx (Bel) and W Stutz (Switz), 3 laps, 3; 10, C Capelle (Fr) and L Colyn (Bel), 3 laps, 2.

FOOTBALL

SOUTH AMERICAN SUPERCUP: Quarter-final, second leg: Nacional (Uru) 2, Cruzeiro Mineiro (Br) 3. (4-4 on agg, Nacional win 4-2 on pens).

PONTINS LEAGUE: First division: Aston Villa 4, Liverpool 0, Derby County 1, Sunderland 1; Leeds United 1, Bolton Wanderers 3; Sheffield Wednesday 2, Nottingham Forest 2. Second division: Manchester City 2, Blackpool 0.

BRAZILIAN LEAGUE: Group C: Goias 0, Fortaleza 0; Nautico 2, Ceara 1; Remo 3, Santa Cruz 1; Vitoria 5, Paysandu 2. Group D: America (Belo Horizonte) 0, Desportiva 0; Atletico Paranaense 0, Criciuma 1; Parana 1, Uniao São João 0; Portuguesa 3, Coritiba 0.

DUTCH LEAGUE: WV Venlo 1, Feyenoord 1; PSV Eindhoven 0, Vitesse Arnhem 1; Cambuur Leeuwarden 0, Ajax 3; FC Groningen 0, FC Volendam 0.

FRENCH LEAGUE: Auxerre 0, Cannes 0.

ITALIAN CUP: Second round: Second legs: Torino 0, Ascoli 0 (Torino win 3-1 on agg).

TNT GOLD CUP: Semi-final: Enfield 0, Bangor 2.

B & Q CUP: Semi-finals: Falkirk v Meadowbank; Ayr Utd v St Mirren (matches be played on November 2-3).

GOLF

SAN FRANCISCO: Tour Championship: First round (US unless stated): 63: J Gallagher. 68: S Simpson, C Pavin, D Frost (SA). 69: N Henke, R Fehr, M Calcavecchia, L Mize, T Kite, F Allem (SA). 70: J Haas, G Morgan, V Singh (Fiji). 71: C Stadler, J McGowan, C Beck, P Mickelson, D Edwards. J Maggert. 72: J Huston, G Norman (Aus), N Price (Zim), P Azinger. 73: L Janzen 74: S Elkington (Aus), F Couples, P Stewart. 77: W Mayfair, D Love III. 78: R Medlete.

TOJO, Japan: Men's tournament: Leading second-round scores (Japan unless stated): 140: D Ishii (US), 69, 71. 141: M Kuramoto, 67, 74. 142: T Hamilton (US), 75, 67. M Ozaki, 73, 69; H Mayase, 69, 73. 143: N Ozaki, 72, 71; M Kimura, 72, 71; T Nakajima, 70, 73; T Nishikawa, 70, 73; Y Yokoshima, 69, 74. Other scores: 144: Chen Tze-chung (Taiwan), 74, 70; B Jones (Aus), 71, 73. 145: G Marsh (Aus), 72, 73; B Watts (US), 71, 74. 146: P Senior (Aus), 76, 70; Chen Tze-ming (Taiwan), 73, 73; F Minoza (Phil), 68, 78. 148: E Herrera (Col), 72, 76. 149: H Glider (US), 73, 76. 150: J Van de Velde (Fr), 75, 75. A Magee (US), 73, 77; K Clearwater (US), 72, 78.

GOLF FOUNDATION SCHOOLS TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP: Regional qualifying rounds (at Broxenhurst Manor): 1, Milton Abbey School (Blandford Forum), 236; 2, Bournemouth School, 237; 3, Winchester College, 240. Best individual score: 74: M Wilson (Bournemouth School). Deeside: Banchory Academy 231, Hazlehead Academy 231, Fraserburgh Academy 232. Best individual: I Buchan (Peterhead Academy) 71.

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Boston 6, Ottawa 2; New York Rangers 3, Montreal 3 (OT); Quebec 7, Pittsburgh 3; Florida 5, New York Islanders 2; St Louis 2, Hartford 1; Toronto 4, Chicago 2; San Jose 4, Anaheim 3.

ICE SKATING

HAMAR, Norway: Pirouetten competition: Pairs final standings: 1, N Mishkutenov and A Dmitriev (Russ) 1.5; 2, I Brasseur and L Eisler (Can) 3.0; 3, K Ina and J Dungjen (US), 5.0. Women's technical programme: 1, J Chouinard (Can), 0.5; 2, N Kerrigan (US), 1.0; 3, T Szewczenko (Ger), 1.5; 20, E Warmington (GB), 10.0. Ice-dance, compulsories: 1, S Rahkamo and P Kokko (Finl), 0.4; 2, Y Kustarova and O Ovsiannikov (Russ), 0.8; 3, K Mrazova and M Simecek (Cz Rep), 1.2.

MOTOR RALLYING

PEKING: 555 Hong Kong to Peking race: (Provisional): 1, A Vatanen (Subaru), 5hr 13min 40sec; 2, C McRae (Subaru), 5.13.59; 3, P Bourne (Subaru), 5:16.59; 4, K Shinozuka (Mitsubishi), 5:33.32; 5, H Nishiyama (Nissan), 5.59.55; 6, M Liau (Subaru), 6:04.53, 7, Lu Ningjun (Subaru) 6:07 44

RUGBY LEAGUE

YOUNGERS ALLIANCE: First division: Castleford 40, Wakefield Trinity 16.

RUGBY UNION

SCHOOL MATCH: George Watsons 10, St Paul's 16.

SPEEDWAY

BRITISH LEAGUE: Second division: Sheffield 59, Edinburgh 49.

TENNIS

ESSEN: Women's tournament: Second round: K Maleeva (Bul) bt R Boklove (Cz Rep), 6-4, 6-2; S Appelmans (Bel) bt N Muns-Jagerman (Holl), 6-4, 6-3. Quarter-finals: N Medvedeva (Ukr) bt E Reinach (SA), 6-0, 6-3, A Sánchez (Sp) bt M Pierce (Fr), 2-6, 6-4, 6-1.

STOCKHOLM: Men's tournament: Third round: M Washington (US) bt B Becker (Ger), 6-1, 6-3; J Svensson (Swe) bt S Bruguera (Sp), 3-6, 6-3, 6-2; G Ivanisevic (Cr) bt T Martin (US), 6-2, 6-4, A Boetsch (Fr) bt C Costa (Sp), 6-3, 6-7, 6-1; S Edberg (Swe) bt A Chesnokov (Russ), 4-6, 6-1, 6-2; M Stich (Ger) bt M Gustafsson (Swe), 7-5, 6-4. Quarter-finals: Ivanisevic bt Boetsch 6, 6-3, 6-1, Washington bt Svenson, 4-6, 6-3, 6-4.

WOMEN'S TENNIS ASSOCIATION RANKINGS: 1, S Graf (Ger), 384.0519pts; 2, A Sánchez Vicario (Sp), 238.0015; 3, M Navratilova (US), 214.1391; 4, M Seles (Yugo), 189.1061; 5, C Martinez (Sp), 167.8180, 6, M J Fernandez (US), 154.8644; 7, G Sabatini (Arg), 151.1193; 8, J Novotna (Cz Rep), 141.5044; 9, J Capriati (US), 123.6746; 10, A Huber (Ger), 113.8125, 11, M Maleeva-Fragniere (Swiz), 104.4915; 12, H Sukova (Cz Rep), 103.3238, 13, K Date (Japan), 89.2917; 14, M Pierce (Fr), 86.3333

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RDAY OCTOBER 30

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n in fortune

Smyth plan works as he retains advantage

DES Smyth, of Ireland, scored a second-round 68 for a two-round aggregate of 133 to retain his lead in the Madrid Open yesterday before admitting that his plan is to forget what other players are doing.

"I've created quite a few winning chances this year and made a mess of each one," Smyth, 40, said. "I'm in a lovely position, but there are some very good players creeping up on me and I have got to focus on my own game." Smyth is two shots clear of three Britons — Barry Lane, David Gilford and Mark Roe — and Wayne Westner, of South Africa.

"I've only had one bogey in two days and that was when I three-putted the 6th from 25 feet today," Smith went on, "but you must not dream that you might win because as sure as eggs are eggs you will make a mess of it." The Irishman collected five birdies in his round and was particularly pleased with his finish, saving par from a bunker at the 16th and ending with a flourish at the last with a birdie four.

Lane, who still insists he played very well in the Ryder Cup even though he lost his three matches, produced a six under par 66 with an eagle two at the 9th, where he holed out from 154 yards with his nine-iron.

"I holed in one with my nine-iron from exactly the same distance at the Belgian Open," Lane said. "I've made five bogeys in the last two days and I'm still nine under so I know I'm playing really well."

Gilford, starting at the 10th, scored 67 and owed his score to a fine last nine holes, which he completed in 30 strokes, including six birdies in the last seven holes. Roe shot 66, including two putts of 55ft and 60ft, the first for a birdie at the 3rd and the second for an eagle at the 5th.

LEADING SECOND-ROUND SCORES (British and Irish unless stated). 133: D Smyth, 65, 68. 135: D Gilford, 68, 67; M Roe, 69, 66; W Westner (SA), 70, 65. B Lane, 69, 66. 137: D Hospital (Sp), 68, 69. 138: P Fowler (Aus), 68, 70, S Richardson, 69, 69. 139: D Cooper, 72, 67; J Quiros (Sp), 67, 72; I Garrido (Sp), 72, 67; J Coceres (Arg), 70, 69, G Turner (NZ), 69, 70, M Piñero (Sp), 69, 70; E Romero (Arg), 73, 66; *L Gabarda (Sp), 66, 73. 140: J Townsend (US), 73, 67, A Piñero (Sp), 70, 70; M Davis, 68, 72; Y Beamonte (Sp), 68, 72, M James, 71, 69; A Murray, 69, 71; A Sorensen (Den), 68, 72; J Rivero (Sp), 68, 72, P Way, 70, 70, M-A Martin (Sp), 72, 68; G Brand Jr, 75, 65, S Luna (Sp), 70, 70; D Feherty, 68, 72; M Krantz (Swe), 71, 69
*denotes amateur

Unexpected return of Offiah sends out alarms

By Christopher Irvine

WHEN Martin Offiah steps back into the international limelight at Wigan today, a year on from having his winged heels burned by Australia in the rugby league World Cup final, the agitation already felt by New Zealand at his return could well see their worst fears realised.

New Zealand had rationalised a dreadful performance at Wembley, in the first of the three-match John Smith's series, as nerves and inexperience. The obvious answers were a strong defence and a good kicking game. Then Britain, unexpectedly, dropped Offiah into the equation this week, after Jason Robinson, of Wigan, dislocated his elbow, and the jitters began.

While it is just about possible to legislate for the simple, but effective tactic of kick-and-chase, likely to be repeated by Britain at Central Park, Offiah's magnificent unpredictability can perhaps only be withstood, at their best, by Australia.

Offiah's mere presence prompted New Zealand into a nervous reshuffle of the back line. Sean Hoppe does not come close to his pace, so he switches to the left wing to counter the strength of John Devereux. Frano Botica, who comes in on the right, was summoned for his goal-kicking. However, taming Offiah, his Wigan colleague, may become an over-riding priority. Two games in six months, following a shoulder operation, is hardly ideal preparation, yet Offiah, after six punishing seasons in League, feels more fine-tuned than for some time.

"Because of Jason's injury, I'm in the side sooner than I thought," he said. "If I'm not yet 100 per cent, I'm close and getting fitter and faster."

Although ominous for New Zealand, the game as a spectacle does require Offiah's individual flair. Britain's clinical dissection of the Kiwis a fortnight ago, despite their near-perfect execution, was a triumph of teamwork.

With the opportunity to clinch the series before the final match at Headingley next Saturday, Malcolm Reilly, the Britain coach, is opposed to altering a winning formula. The emphasis will be on discipline, with Botica, the supreme place-kicker, on his home turf. Otherwise, New Zealand can expect high balls and ferocious forward pressure. A repeat of the ten handling errors they committed at Wembley would render them helpless, even if their confidence has been restored by three successive tour victories.

Should New Zealand fail to win the forward skirmish, the overall battle will probably be lost. A suspect defence would be vulnerable not simply to the kicking of Jonathan Davies and Shaun Edwards, but also to the speed and strength of a thoroughbred back line.

Edwards was Britain's inspiration last time. Without the organisational skills of Martin Dermott at hooker, his new partnership with Lee Jackson is a potentially vulnerable area that Gary Freeman, the New Zealand captain and scrum half, will look to exploit.

TEAMS

GREAT BRITAIN: J Davies (Warrington), J Devereux (Widnes), G Connolly (Leeds), P Newlove (Bradford Northern), M Offiah (Wigan), G Schofield (Leeds, captain), S Edwards (Wigan), K Harrison (Halifax), L Jackson (Sheffield Eagles), K Fairbank (Bradford Northern), S Nickle (St Helens), C Joynt (St Helens), P Clarke (Wigan). Substitutes: D Powell (Sheffield Eagles), R Eyres (Leeds), A Tait (Leeds), M Jackson (Halifax).
NEW ZEALAND: D Watson (Bradford Northern), F Botica (Wigan), K Iro (Leeds), I Ropati (Auckland), S Hoppe (Canberra), T Kemp (Castleford), G Freeman (Penrith, captain), S Solomona (Oldham), D Mann (Auckland), B Stuart (Canterbury), S Kearney (Sydney Western Suburbs), Q Pongia (Canberra), J Mackie (Northland). Substitutes: J Williams (Canterbury-Bankstown), J Lomax (Canberra), W Taewa (Canterbury), G Mercer (Leeds).
Referee: G McCallum (Aus)



Offiah's unpredictability will make him a threat against New Zealand

Wigan take fixture gamble

SUCH is the injury crisis at Wigan that, if fit, the club's five representatives in this afternoon's second Great Britain v New Zealand international will be called on to play in the Stones Bitter Championship match at Castleford 24 hours later (Christopher Irvine writes). Wigan, the league leaders, opted against postponing the match, to try to maintain pressure on their title challengers and to avoid an early contribution to the inevitable end-of-season fixture backlog.

Having thrown the dice, John Dorahy, the coach, said, they failed to roll Wigan's way, when Andrew Farrell and Barrie-Jon Mather, the two second-row forwards, picked up injuries in the midweek defeat of the Great Britain under-21 side by New Zealand.

Leeds and St Helens, with seven internationals on duty between them, took the wiser course by calling off their meeting. Wigan have Andy Platt, Kelvin Skerrett and Nigel Wright restored to fitness, but there are gaps, mostly in the pack, which would be awkward to fill.

Dorahy doubted whether all five Test players would start, but said most available hands would be at the pump. Castleford are also hoping that Tony Kemp, their New Zealand stand-off half, will appear. Overall, the Yorkshire club has a more settled appearance and would hope to close a three-point gap on the champions, who have lost on three of their past four visits to Wheldon Road.

Howarth pleads for fewer changes

GEOFF Howarth, the New Zealand cricket coach, said yesterday that selection mistakes had damaged the Test side's recent performances as the New Zealanders struggled against New South Wales in the latest match of their tour to Australia.

New South Wales, the Sheffield Shield-holders, were 299 for eight at the close of the opening day of the four-day match at Newcastle. After losing their first three matches in Australia, the New Zealanders toiled once again in the field to contain the powerful state side until Dipak Patel chipped in with six for 87 with his off spin.

Howarth, the former New Zealand captain, said inconsistency in selection had weakened the side over recent years. "We've gone through 36 players or something in the past three years and that's not conducive to building a settled side," he said. Howarth expressed hope that the country's newly-appointed selection panel could provide much needed stability.

Patel was introduced with the score on 147 for two and bowled 23 overs unchanged into the wind at the Newcastle Sports Ground. Steve and Mark Waugh, the Australia Test batsmen, led the New South Wales charge before both were dismissed by Patel.

Steve Waugh was the top scorer with 88, and his twin brother, Mark, fell for 63. Michael Bevan became the third player to reach his half-century with a sparkling 55 before he too lost his wicket to Patel. Simon Doull was the other successful New Zealand bowler, claiming the wickets of New South Wales' Test openers, Mark Taylor and Michael Slater.

NEW SOUTH WALES

*M A Taylor b Doull	26
M J Slater c Young b Doull	16
S R Waugh lbw b Patel	88
M E Waugh c Pocock b Patel	63
M G Bevan c Crowe b Patel	55
G R J Matthews not out	31
B E McNamara c and b Patel	9
†P A Emery c Rutherford b Patel	0
P J S Alley b Patel	3
G McGrath not out	3
Extras (lb 3, nb 2)	5
Total (8 wkts)	299

M R Whitney to bat.
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-43, 2-50, 3-169, 4-218, 5-267, 6-283, 7-285, 8-293.
BOWLING: Morrison 18-3-50-0 (nb 2); Su'a 13-1-41-0; Watson 14-4-44-0; Doull 23-3-74-2; Patel 23-2-87-6.
NEW ZEALANDERS: B A Pocock, B A Young, A H Jones, *M D Crowe, K R Rutherford, D N Patel, †T E Blain, W Watson, S B Doull, D K Morrison, M L Su'a.

Arthurton and Adams overcome Pakistan

KEITH Arthurton and Jimmy Adams shared a stand of 119 to set up West Indies for a 39-run victory over Pakistan in the Champions Trophy in Sharjah yesterday. Arthurton, the leading scorer with 84, and Adams, unbeaten on 81, lifted West Indies from a shaky 82 for four to 267 for seven in their 50 overs.

Pakistan were restricted to 228 for nine, giving West Indies their second win in consecutive days after they beat Sri Lanka by eight wickets in the opening match of the triangular competition.

A combination of pace and swing from Wasim Akram, Waqar Younis and Aqib Javed, allied to Mushtaq's wrist spin, caused West Indies early problems. Arthurton and Adams then tilted the balance, with Waqar being hit for 57 runs in his 7.1 overs.

Pakistan crumbled to 59 for four — including losing Javed Miandad, bowled by Kenneth Benjamin without scoring — but were revived by an 88-run partnership for the fifth wicket between Basit Ali (46) and Asif Mujtaba, who struck 60 not out in 87 minutes. Ali's run-out turned the match firmly in favour of West Indies.

WEST INDIES

P V Simmons c Rashid Latif b Waqar	25
B C Lara c Rashid Latif b Akram	14
*R B Richardson c Saeed Anwar b Aqib	2
K L T Arthurton c Sohail b Mushtaq	84
C L Hooper c Rashid Latif b Mushtaq	6
J C Adams not out	81
†J Murray lbw b Akram	6
A Cummins b Akram	18
W K M Benjamin not out	2
Extras (b 1, lb 19, nb 2, w 7)	29
Total (7 wkts, 50 overs)	267

K C G Benjamin and C E L Ambrose did not bat.
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-32, 2-35, 3-57, 4-82, 5-201, 6-225, 7-263.
BOWLING: Akram 10-0-36-3; Aqib 10-0-38-1; Waqar 7.1-0-57-1; Mushtaq 10-1-44-2, Sohail 4.5-0-31-0; Mujtaba 8-0-41-0.

PAKISTAN

Aamir Sohail lbw K Benjamin	3
Saeed Anwar c Lara b Cummins	22
Inzamam-ul-Haq c K Benjamin b Hooper	25
Javed Miandad b K Benjamin	0
Basit Ali run out	46
Asif Mujtaba not out	60
*Wasim Akram c Adams b Ambrose	28
†Rashid Latif c Lara b Ambrose	0
Mushtaq Ahmed c Murray b Hooper	2
Waqar Younis c Lara b Hooper	15
Aqib Javed not out	6
Extras (lb 6, w 14, nb 1)	21
Total (9 wkts, 50 overs)	228

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-4, 2-47, 3-48, 4-59, 5-147, 6-185, 7-190, 8-194, 9-213.
BOWLING: Ambrose 9-1-29-2; K Benjamin 9-1-37-2; W Benjamin 6-0-40-0; Cummins 10-1-44-1; Hooper 10-0-33-3; Simmons 6-0-39-0.

□ Brett Schultz, the South African left-arm fast bowler, will miss his country's tour of India next month following a knee operation.

GUIDE TO THE WEEKEND FIXTURES

3pm unless stated

FOOTBALL

FA Carling Premiership

Arsenal v Norwich
Blackburn v Tottenham (all ticket)
Chelsea v Oldham
Ipswich v Everton
Liverpool v Southampton
Manchester United v QPR
Newcastle v Wimbledon
Sheffield Wednesday v Leeds United (all ticket)
Swindon v A Villa (all ticket)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Man Utd	12	10	1	1	25	9	31
Norwich	12	6	4	2	21	12	22
Arsenal	12	6	4	2	12	6	22
Leeds	12	6	3	3	17	13	21
QPR	12	6	2	4	23	19	20
Blackburn	12	5	5	2	17	13	20
Aston Villa	12	5	5	2	13	9	20
Tottenham	12	5	4	3	19	13	19
Liverpool	12	5	2	5	18	10	17
Wimbledon	12	4	5	3	13	15	17
Newcastle	12	4	4	4	17	14	16
Everton	12	5	1	6	14	16	16
Ipswich	12	4	4	4	12	14	16
Coventry	12	3	6	3	14	16	15
Man City	12	3	5	4	11	10	14
Chelsea	12	3	4	5	10	11	13
West Ham	12	3	4	5	6	13	13
Sheff Utd	12	2	5	5	16	21	11
Sheff Wed	12	1	6	5	14	20	9
Southampton	12	2	2	8	13	20	8
Oldham	12	1	5	6	8	19	8
Swindon	12	0	5	7	10	26	5

Endsleigh Insurance League

First division

Bolton v Derby
Bristol City v Sunderland
Charlton v Oxford United
Crystal Palace v Grimsby
Luton v Leicester
Middlesbrough v Peterborough
Nottingham Forest v Notts County (all ticket)
Portsmouth v Tranmere
Southend v Wolverhampton
Stoke v Barnsley
West Bromwich v Watford

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Charlton	13	7	5	1	16	10	26
Tranmere	13	7	3	3	20	15	24
Middlesbrough	13	6	4	3	24	15	22
Leicester	11	7	1	3	18	11	22
Crystal Palace	11	6	3	2	22	11	21
Southend	12	6	2	4	24	16	20
Derby	12	6	2	4	22	19	20
Millwall	13	5	4	4	14	18	19
Watford	12	5	3	4	20	20	18
Birmingham	13	4	5	4	18	17	17
Sunderland	12	5	2	5	14	16	17
Grimsby	13	3	7	3	19	16	16
Portsmouth	13	3	7	3	19	22	16
Stoke	12	4	3	5	15	18	15
Bristol City	13	4	3	6	14	18	15
Bolton	12	4	2	6	18	19	14
W'hampton	12	3	5	4	17	16	14
Notts County	12	4	2	6	16	18	14
Luton	13	4	2	7	13	17	14
Nottm Forest	12	3	4	5	17	19	13
Barnsley	13	4	1	8	14	24	13
West Brom	12	3	3	6	18	21	12
Peterborough	12	3	3	6	13	19	12
Oxford Utd	12	3	2	7	15	25	11

Second division

Blackpool v Brighton
Bournemouth v Exeter
Bradford v York
Brentford v Barnet
Cambridge Utd v Burnley
Cardiff v Hartlepool
Huddersfield v Bristol Rovers
Hull v Leyton Orient
Plymouth v Wrexham
Reading v Fulham
Rotherham v Port Vale
Stockport v Swansea

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Stockport	13	9	3	1	25	10	30
Reading	13	9	2	2	35	18	29
Hull	13	7	3	3	24	19	24
Bristol Rovers	13	7	3	3	19	14	24
Plymouth	13	7	2	4	26	20	23
Burnley	13	7	1	5	25	17	22
Bournemouth	12	6	4	2	16	10	22
Port Vale	13	6	3	4	23	18	21
Blackpool	13	6	2	5	22	21	20
York	13	6	1	6	18	16	19
Swansea	13	5	4	4	16	14	19
Cambridge Utd	13	5	3	5	20	22	18
Exeter	13	5	3	5	19	24	18
Brentford	13	5	3	5	13	13	18
Bradford	13	5	2	6	23	22	17
Rotherham	13	4	5	4	18	19	17
Leyton Orient	13	5	2	6	17	21	17
Wrexham	13	4	3	6	21	24	15
Huddersfield	13	3	4	6	13	18	13
Brighton	13	2	5	6	13	22	11
Hartlepool	13	3	2	8	9	15	11
Cardiff	12	2	4	6	18	25	10
Fulham	13	2	3	8	10	18	9
Barnet	13	1	1	11	11	34	4

Third division

Carlisle v Walsall
Chester v Torquay
Chesterfield v Crewe
Doncaster v Northampton
Gillingham v Colchester
Hereford v Preston
Rochdale v Lincoln
Scarborough v Bury
Scunthorpe v Darlington
Wigan v Mansfield
Wycombe v Shrewsbury

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Crewe	12	8	3	1	27	13	27
Preston	12	8	2	2	32	18	26
Rochdale	12	6	3	3	23	11	21
Colchester	12	6	2	4	27	26	20
Wycombe	12	5	5	2	20	19	20
Walsall	12	5	5	2	13	10	20
Scunthorpe	12	5	4	3	19	9	19
Chester	12	6	1	5	17	14	19
Mansfield	12	5	3	4	16	19	18
Shrewsbury	12	5	2	5	17	19	17
Doncaster	12	5	2	5	12	13	17
Torquay	12	3	7	2	23	23	16
Bury	12	4	4	4	20	19	16
Lincoln	12	4	3	5	17	21	15
Gillingham	12	3	5	4	12	16	14
Chesterfield	12	4	1	7	18	25	13
Wigan	12	3	3	6	17	24	12
Carlisle	12	2	6	4	13	11	12
Hereford	12	3	2	7	22	28	11
Scarborough	12	3	2	7	15	22	11
Northampton	12	2	4	6	15	24	10
Darlington	12	0	5	7	7	16	5

GM Vauxhall Conference

Bath v Halifax
Kettering v Altrincham
Merthyr v Northwich
Runcorn v Welling
Slough v Kidderminster
Southport v Dover
Stafford v Macclesfield
Stalybridge v Bromsgrove
Witton v Dag & Red
Woking v Telford
Yeovil v Gateshead

Scottish League

Premier division

Aberdeen v Dundee
Dundee Utd v St Johnstone
Hibernian v Hearts
Motherwell v Kilmarnock
Partick v Raith
Rangers v Celtic

First division

Ayr v Clyde
Clydebank v Dumbarton
Dunfermline v Brechin
Hamilton v Airdrie
Morton v St Mirren
Stirling v Falkirk

Second division

Alloa v Queen's Park
East Fife v Arbroath
East Stirling v Stranraer
Forfar v Cowdenbeath
Meadowbank v Stenhousemuir
Montrose v Albion
Queen Of South v Berwick

FA VASE: First round: Whickham v Billingham Town; Harrogate Rly v Pickering Town, Penrith v Eppleton C W; Esh Winning v South Shields, Willington v Prudhoe East End; Ponteland United v Seaton Delaval Ams; Crook Town v Evenwood Town; Eccleshill United v Belper Town; Prescot A F C v Hallam; Rossendale United v Bootle, Vauxhall v Denaby United; Salford City v Res Parkgate; Liversedge v North Ferriby United; Thackley v Stocksbridge P S; Pontefract Colls v Maltby M W; Merseyside Police v Louth United; Ossett Albion v Sheffield; Bacup Borough v Clitheroe, Lincoln United v Darwen, Kimberley Town v Nantwich Town; Yorkshire Amts v Armthorpe Welfare; Newcastle Town v Glossop North End, Radcliffe Borough v North Trafford; Maghull v Ilkeston Town; Friar Lane O B v Cogenhoe United, Northampton Spencer v Walsall Wood, Arnold Town v Boldmere St Michaels; Bridgnorth Town v Lye Town, Westfields v R C Warwick; Armitage 90 v Chatteris Town; Raunds Town v Stapenhill, Chasetown v Long Buckby; Dunkirk v Rushall Olympic, Rocester v West Bromwich Town; Hinckley Town v Oadby Town, Holwell Sports v Paget Rangers; Oldbury United v Alvechurch, March Town United v Witham Town; Spalding United v Sawbridgeworth Town, Lowestoft Town v Brantham Ath; Harwich and Parkeston v Newmarket Town, Boston v Mirrlees Blackstone, Haverhill Rovers v Tilbury; Kings Lynn v Gt Yarmouth Town; Stowmarket Town v Soham Town Rgrs; Halstead Town v Histon, Gt Wakering Rovers v Cornard United, Edgware Town v Feltham and Hounslow; Tring Town v Hatfield Town; Leverstock Green v Brimsdown Rovers; Burnham v Hemel Hempstead; Concord Rangers v Letchworth G C; Ware v Arlesey Town, Cheshunt v Royston Town; Hornchurch v Leighton Town, Harefield United v Aveley, Shillington v Burnham Ramblers; Clapton v Barton Rovers; Northwood v Stotfold; Collier Row v Payners Lane; Potton United v Ford United; Ashford Town (Middx) v Bedfont; Burgess Hill Town v Chatham Town; Newhaven v Tonbridge, Croydon Athletic v Littlehampton Town; Arundel v Lewes; Sheppey United v Corinthian Casuals; Portfield v Oakwood; Alma Swanley v Tunbridge Wells, Crowborough Ath v Slade Green; Hanwell Town v Lancing; Corinthian v Whitehawk; Wick v Hailsham Town; Godalming and Guildford v Chipstead; Bracknell Town v Folkestone Invicta; Herne Bay v Horsham Y M C A; Cove v Eastleigh, Newbury Town v Sandhurst Town; Lymington v Thame United; Hungerford Town v Melksham Town; North Leigh v Christchurch; Peppard v Oxford City; Ryde Sports v Andover; Milton United v Calne Town; First Tower United v Sherborne Town; Thatcham Town v Aldershot Town; St Blazey v Chard Town; Chippenham Town v Torpoint Athletic; Yate Town v Cirencester Town; Saltash United v Barnstaple Town, Mangotsfield United v Minehead; Larkhall Athletic v Frome Town; Bishop Sutton v Bideford, Elmore v Torrington; Taunton Town v Keynsham Town; Bridport v Falmouth Town.

SMIRNOFF IRISH LEAGUE: Ballyclare v Newry; Bangor v Linfield; Carrick v Glenavon; Coleraine v Ards; Glentoran v Cliftonville, Larne v Ballymena; Omagh Town v Distillery; Portadown v Crusaders.

KONICA LEAGUE OF WALES: Afan Lido v Porthmadog; Caersws v Maesteg Park; Connah's Quay v Inter Cardiff, Ebbw Vale v Conwy (2.30); Flint Town United v Aberystwyth; Haverfordwest v Bangor City; Holywell v Cwmbran (2.30); Llansantffraid v Llanelli; Mold v Briton Ferry, Ton Pentre v Newtown.

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Premier division: Atherstone v Sittingbourne; Bashley v Cambridge City; Chelmsford v Waterlooville; Farnborough v Corby Town, Gloucester v Dorchester; Gresley Rovers v Moor Green; Hastings v Nuneaton; Hednesford v Crawley Town; Solihull v Cheltenham; Trowbridge v Halesowen. Worcester v Burton. Midland division: Bilston Town v Leicester United; Clevedon Town v Evesham United; Dudley Town v Newport AFC; Forest Green Rovers v Sutton Coldfield Tn; Grantham Town v Weston-Super-Mare; Redditch United v Rushden and Diamonds; Tamworth v Bedworth United; VS Rugby v Stourbridge. Southern division: Ashford Town v Poole Town; Baldock Town v Salisbury City; Braintree Town v Witney Town; Fareham Town v Sudbury Town, Fisher 93 v Margate; Gravesend and Northfleet v Weymouth; Havant Town v Canterbury City; Newport IOW v Buckingham Town; Wealdstone v Erith and Belvedere.

DIADORA LEAGUE: Premier division: Basingstoke v Dulwich; Bromley v Kingstonian; Carshalton v Dorking; Enfield v Wokingham; Harrow v Aylesbury; Hayes v Wivenhoe; Hendon v Hitchin; Marlow v Molesey; St Albans v Yeading; Stevenage Borough v Chesham; Sutton United v Grays. First division: Abingdon Town v Heybridge Swifts; Berkhamsted Town v Bishops Stortford; Bognor Regis Town v Leyton; Boreham Wood v Worthing; Chalfont St Peter v Windsor and Eton; Maidenhead United v Walton and Hersham; Purfleet v Barking; Staines Town v Ruislip Manor; Tooting and Mitcham v Croydon; Uxbridge v Billericay Town; Wembley v Whyteleafe. Second division: Banstead Athletic v Metropolitan Police; Hampton v Malden Vale; Saffron Walden Town v Rainham Town. Third division: Camberley Town v Horsham; Hertford Town v Epsom and Ewell; Kingsbury Town v East Thurrock United.

NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Premier division: Bishop Auckland v Buxton; Boston v Chorley; Colwyn Bay v Emley; Droylsden v Gainsborough, Hyde v Winsford; Knowsley United v Barrow; Matlock v Fleetwood; Whitley Bay v Horwich. First division: Bamber Bridge v Farsley Celtic; Congleton Town v Goole Town; Curzon Ashton v Lancaster City; Eastwood Town v Mossley; Harrogate Town v Caernarfon Town; Spennymoor United v Alfreton Town; Warrington Town v Netherfield; Worksop Town v Workington. President's Cup: Gt Harwood Town v Accrington Stanley; Guiseley v Marine, Leek v Gretna, Morecambe v Ashton United.

NEVILLE OVENDEN COMBINATION: First division: Southampton v Millwall.

SOUTH EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Arsenal v Ipswich; Cambridge United v Watford; Charlton v West Ham; Fulham v QPR; Millwall v Chelsea; Norwich v Leyton Orient, Southend v Gillingham. Second division: Bournemouth v Luton; Brentford v Brighton; Bristol Rovers v Crystal Palace, Colchester v Reading; Southampton v Wimbledon; Tottenham v Swindon. League Cup: Second round: Oxford United v Portsmouth.

AFA SENIOR CUP: First round: Baltic Exchange v OBuckwellians; Old Finchleians v London Welsh; Peoples College v Old Suttonians; Old Greenfordians v Brentham, Old Grocers v Old Salesians, Wandsworth Boro v Lancing OB, Whan v Old Latymerians; Fulham Compton v Wood Green OB, Bournside v St Marys College; Old Westminster Citizens v Old Chigwellians; Old Southallians v Old Camdenians: B B C v Hampstead Heathens; John Fisher OB v Ulysses; Old Foresters v Mill Hill City; Old Owens v Old Elizabethans; Old Danes v Old Esthameians; Latymer v Kew Assoc; West Wickham v Brent; Old Stationers v Southgate Olympic; Old Westhamians v Reigate Priory; Nottsborough v Barclays Bank; E B Old Grammarians v Polytechnic; Tansley v Hadley; Nottinghamshire v Centymca; Ealing Association v Mill Hill Village; Pegasus v Merton; Old Tenisonians v Alexandra Park; Civil Service v Old Cholmeleians; Old Minchendenians v Inland Revenue; Old Colfeians v Carshalton, Old Wilsonians v Parkfield; Old Vaughanians v City Of London; Old Parkonians v Old Salopians; Lensbury v OBromleians; Old Addeyans v Lloyds Bank; Old Malvernian v Ibis; Old Edmontonians v Old Tollingtonians; South Bank Poly v Wesmans; Enfield v Alleyn OB; Bank Of England v Old Haileyburian; Economicals v Royal Bank Of Scotland; Old Aldenhamians v Albanian; Sinvil v Duncombe Sports; Old Salvatorians v Wake Green; Cusco v Southgate County; Shene O G v Old Grammarians; Old Woodhouseians v Old Tiffinian; Old Wokingians v Old Kingsburians.

NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE: Premier division: Ashfield United v Glasshoughton Wel; Hucknall Town v Winterton Rangers.

JEWSON LEAGUE: Premier division: Felixstowe Town v Wroxham; Tiptree United v Watton United; Wisbech Town v Sudbury Wanderers.

FEDERATION BREWERY NORTHERN LEAGUE: First division: Chester Le Street v Guisborough Town; Ferryhill Athletic v Consett; Hebburn v Brandon United; Northallerton Tn v Newcastle Blue Star; Seaham Red Star v Stockton; Shildon v Murton; Tow Law Town v Billingham Synthonia; West Auckland v Blyth Spartans; Whitby Town v Durham City.

RUGBY UNION

Tour match

South West Division v New Zealand (at Redruth, 2.30)

CIS divisional championship

Midlands v London and South East (at Leicester, 3.0)

Irish inter-provincial championship

Exiles v Connacht (at Sunbury, 3.0)
Munster v Leinster (at Cork, 2.30)

Courage Clubs Championship

All matches 3.0

Third division

Bedford v Fylde
Blackheath v Coventry
Exeter v Rosslyn Park
Morley v Redruth
Richmond v Havant (2.45)

Fourth division

Aspatria v Broughton Park
Clifton v Leeds
Liverpool St Helens v Askeans (2.45)
Sheffield v Plymouth (2.30)
Sudbury v Harrogate

Fifth division north

Birmingham Solihull v Kendal
Durham v Stoke-on-Trent
Lichfield v Hereford
Preston Grasshoppers v Winnington Park
Rotherham v Stourbridge
Walsall v Bradford and Bingley

Fifth division south

Berry Hill v North Walsham
High Wycombe v Basingstoke
London Welsh v Reading
Lydney v Weston-super-Mare
Maidstone v Tabard
Southend v Met Police

Heineken Welsh League

All matches 2.30

First division

Aberavon v Bridgend
Cardiff v Pontypool
Cross Keys v Pontypridd
Dunvant v Llanelli
Newbridge v Neath
Swansea v Newport

Second division

Llandovery v Abertillery
Llanharan v Mt Ash
Narberth v Ebbw Vale
Penarth v Tenby Utd
South Wales Police v Maesteg
Treorchy v Glamorgan Wanderers

Club matches

All matches 2.30

Bath v Loughborough Students
Biggar v Hutchesons' Aloysian (2.30)
Boroughmuir v West of Scotland (2.30)
Camborne v Brixham (11.0)
Cambridge Univ v Wasps
Currie v Dunfermline — Cancelled
Edinburgh W v Glasgow High (2.30)
Gala v Jed-Forest (2.30)
Heriots FP v Royal High (2.30)
Kelso v Ballymena — Cancelled
Kirkcaldy v Howe of Fife (2.30)
Langholm v Melrose (2.30)
Musselburgh v Stirling Co (2.30)
Northampton v Moseley
Nottingham v Bristol
Orrell v Waterloo
Peebles v Alnwick (2.30)
Rugby v Harlequins
Sale v Hawick
Saracens v Leicester
Stewarts Mel FP v Selkirk (2.30)
Watsonians v Glasgow Ac (2.30)
W Hartlepool v Newcastle Gosforth

RUGBY LEAGUE

John Smith's tour match

Great Britain v New Zealand (at Wigan, 3.0)

Regal Trophy

First round

Dewsbury v West Bowling (2.30)

ICE HOCKEY

BRITISH ICE HOCKEY ASSOCIATION: Premier division: Basingstoke v Durham Wasps; Cardiff Devils v Bracknell Bees; Nottingham Panthers v Sheffield Steelers; Billingham Bombers v Humberside Seahawks; Whitley Warriors v Murrayfield Racers. Postponed: Fife Flyers v Norwich and Peterboro. First division: Solihull Barons v Blackburn Blackhawks; Paisley Pirates v Chelmsford Chieftains; Swindon Wildcats v Dumfries, Telford Tigers v Lee Valley Lions; Slough Jets v Romford Raiders; Trafford Metros v Oxford Stars.

HOCKEY

ERNST AND YOUNG NORTH PREMIER LEAGUE: Alderley Edge v York; Blackburn v Norton; Formby v Timperley; Hightown-Northern v Ben Rhydding; Southport v Durham University.

ERNST AND YOUNG MIDLAND LEAGUE: Bloxwich v Worcester Norton; Hampton in Arden v Finchfield; Khalsa v Coventry and North Warwickshire; Lichfield v Belper; Olton and West Warwickshire v Leicester Westleigh.

NASTRO AZZURRO SOUTH LEAGUE: Premier division: Chichester v Fareham; Hampstead v Old Kingstonians; Hendon v City of Portsmouth; High Wycombe v Oxford Hawks; Lyons v Maidenhead; Mid Sussex v Spencer, Old Walcountians v Winchester; Staines v Anchorians; Tulse Hill v Gore Court; Wimbledon v Dulwich. Regionals: Hampshire/Surrey: Barnes v Old Whitgiftians; Bournemouth v Lensbury; Camberley v London University; Epsom v Merton; O Edwardians v Cheam; O Mid Whitgiftians v Fleet; Oxshott v Basingstoke; Purley v Petersfield; Weybridge Hawks v Barclays Bank; Woking v Old Tauntonians. Kent/Sussex: Eastbourne v Bexleyheath; Herne Bay v Blackheath; Horsham v Worthing; Lewes v Bognor; Lloyds Bank v Brighton; Marden Russets v Beckenham; Old Bordenians v Tunbridge Wells; Old Holcombeians v Tonbridge; Old Williamsonians v Sevenoaks. Middx/Berks/Bucks and Oxon: Amersham v Ramgarhia, Ashford v OMT; Aylesbury v Sunbury; Bracknell v NPL; City Of Oxford v Morris Motors; Eastcote v Milton Keynes; Gerrards Cross v Mill Hill; Harrow v Hayes; HCC v Marlow. Wokingham v Richings Park.

NORWICH UNION EAST LEAGUE: Blueharts v Old Southendian; Colchester v Bedford; Dereham v Pelicans; Ipswich v Welwyn Garden City; Luton v Stevenage, Peterborough Town v Bishops Stortford; Redbridge and Ilford v Cambridge University; Westcliff v Chelmsford.

SUNLIFE WEST HOCKEY LEAGUE: Bath Buccs v Taunton; Brean v Exeter University; Hereford v Weston-super-Mare; Swansea v Whitchurch, Westbury Banks v Plymouth.

WOMEN'S NATIONAL LEAGUE: Premier division: Hightown v F P Sutton Coldfield.

VOLLEYBALL

ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND NATIONAL WOMEN'S LEAGUE: Second division: Polonia Ladies v Spark Jet Stationery; Timeout Gloucester City v Trent Fm Rockets; Birmingham Ladies v Sheffield Wednesday.

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION: London games: Atlanta Hawks v Orlando Magic.

BUDWEISER LEAGUE: Guildford Kings v London Towers; Oldham Celtics v Hemel Hempstead Royals; Worthing Bears v Thames Valley Tigers.

MEN'S NATIONAL CUP: First round: Crystal Palace v Derby; Plymouth v Mid Sussex; Chiltern v Coventry.

MEN'S NATIONAL LEAGUE: First division: Bury Lobos v Cardiff Heat.

WOMEN'S NATIONAL LEAGUE: First division: Barking and Dagenham Bobcats v Birmingham Quality Cats; Northampton 89'ers v Nottingham Wildcats; Rhondda v Thames Valley Ladies. Second division: London Heat v Spelthorne Acers; Manchester Flames v Plymouth Racers. Sunderland Ladies v Harlesden Amazons.

LACROSSE

SHEPHERDS FRIENDLY NATIONAL LEAGUE: First division north: Timperley v Heaton Mersey; Rochdale v Old Waconians; Sheffield Steelers v Stockport; Mellor v Sale; Cheadle v Poynton. First division south: Kenton v Hillcroft; Hitchin v. Buckhurst Hill; Hampstead v Bath, Purley v Croydon.

OTHER SPORT

SNOOKER: Skoda grand prix (Reading)

TOMORROW

FOOTBALL

3pm unless stated

FA Carling Premiership

Coventry City v Sheffield United (4.0)

Endsleigh Insurance League

First division

Birmingham City v Millwall

BORD GAIS LEAGUE OF IRELAND: Premier division: Cork City v St Patrick's Athletic (2.45); Limerick v Derry City (2.45). Monaghan Utd v Galway Utd (2.30); Shamrock Rovers v Cobh Ramblers (2.45).

RUGBY UNION

Club match

London Irish v Nuneaton (3.0)

RUGBY LEAGUE

3.0 unless stated

Regal Trophy

First round

Barrow v Leigh Miners Welfare (2.30)
Batley v Queens (3.15)
Bramley v Woolston (3.30)
Carlisle v Carcassonne XIII (2.30)
Doncaster v Mysons
Highfield v Ellenborough
Huddersfield v Irlam Hornets (3.30)
Hunslet v Chorley
Keighley v Nottingham City (3.15)
London Crusaders v St Esteve XIII
Rochdale v Blackpool
Ryedale York v Hemel Hempstead (3.15)
Swinton v Saddleworth
Whitehaven v Egremont (3.30)
Workington v Wigan St Patricks

Stones Bitter Championship

First division

Bradford v Salford
Castleford v Wigan (3.30)
Hull KR v Halifax (3.15)
Sheffield v Hull (3.15)
Wakefield v Oldham (3.30)
Widnes v Featherstone

ICE HOCKEY

BRITISH ICE HOCKEY ASSOCIATION: Premier division: Bracknell Bees v Whitley Warriors, Durham Wasps v Cardiff Devils; Humberside Seahawks v Nottingham Panthers. Postponed: Murrayfield Racers v Norwich and Peterborough. First division: Blackburn Blackhawks v Chelmsford Chieftains; Guildford v Slough Jets; Lee Valley Lions v Romford Raiders; Medway Bears v Streatham Redskins; Milton Keynes Kings v Dumfries; Paisley Pirates v Telford Tigers; Oxford Stars v Solihull Barons.

VOLLEYBALL

ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND NATIONAL WOMENS' LEAGUE: First division: Wessex v Sale; Ashcombe Guildford Spectrum v KLEA Leeds; Dynamo London v Britannia Music City. Second division: Polonia Ladies v Team Knights; Timeout Gloucester City v Sheffield Wednesday; Birmingham Ladies v Trent FM Rockets.

HOCKEY

PIZZA EXPRESS NATIONAL LEAGUE: First division: Southgate v Reading (Broomfield School 2.15); Teddington v Slough (Teddington School 2.30); Bournville v Trojans (Birmingham University 2.30); Bromley v Indian Gymkhana (Priory Leisure Centre, Orpington 2.00); Cannock v Stourport (Morris Ground 2.30); Canterbury v Welton (Polo Farm 1.00); Firebrands v East Grinstead (Birmingham University 12.00); Havant v Old Loughtonians (Havant College 2.15), Hounslow v St Albans (Chiswick Boathouse 2.00). Second division: Barford Tigers v Isca (Holyhead Leisure Centre, Birmingham 1.00); Beeston v Harleston Magpies (Highfields 2.00); Brooklands v Gloucester City (The Pavilions, Sale 1.45); Cambridge City v Richmond (Hinchingbrooke School, Huntingdon 2.30); Cheltenham v Doncaster (Bournside School 2.00); Edgbaston v Oxford University (Birmingham University 2.00); Sheffield v Harborne (Abbeydale Park 12.30); Surbiton v Guildford (Sugden Road 2.30); Warrington v Neston (Broomfields Road 2.00).

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION LONDON GAMES: Atlanta Hawks v Orlando Magic.

MEN'S NATIONAL CUP: First round: Brixton v Liverpool; Stockton v Sheffield; Swindon v Bury.

BUDWEISER LEAGUE: Chester Jets v Sunderland Scorpions; Doncaster Panthers v Worthing Bears. Manchester Giants v Guildford Kings.

WOMEN'S NATIONAL LEAGUE: First division: Brixton Lady Topcats v Sheffield Hatters, Chester Cats v Ipswich, London Jets v South Tyneside. Second division: Doncaster Free Press v Manchester Flames.

OTHER SPORT

CYCLING: National hill climb championship (Newlands Pass, Buttermere, 10.0); International cyclo-cross (Sutton Park, Sutton Coldfield, 2.0)

SNOOKER: Skoda grand prix (Reading)

MOTOR SPORT: Touring car races (Donington Park)

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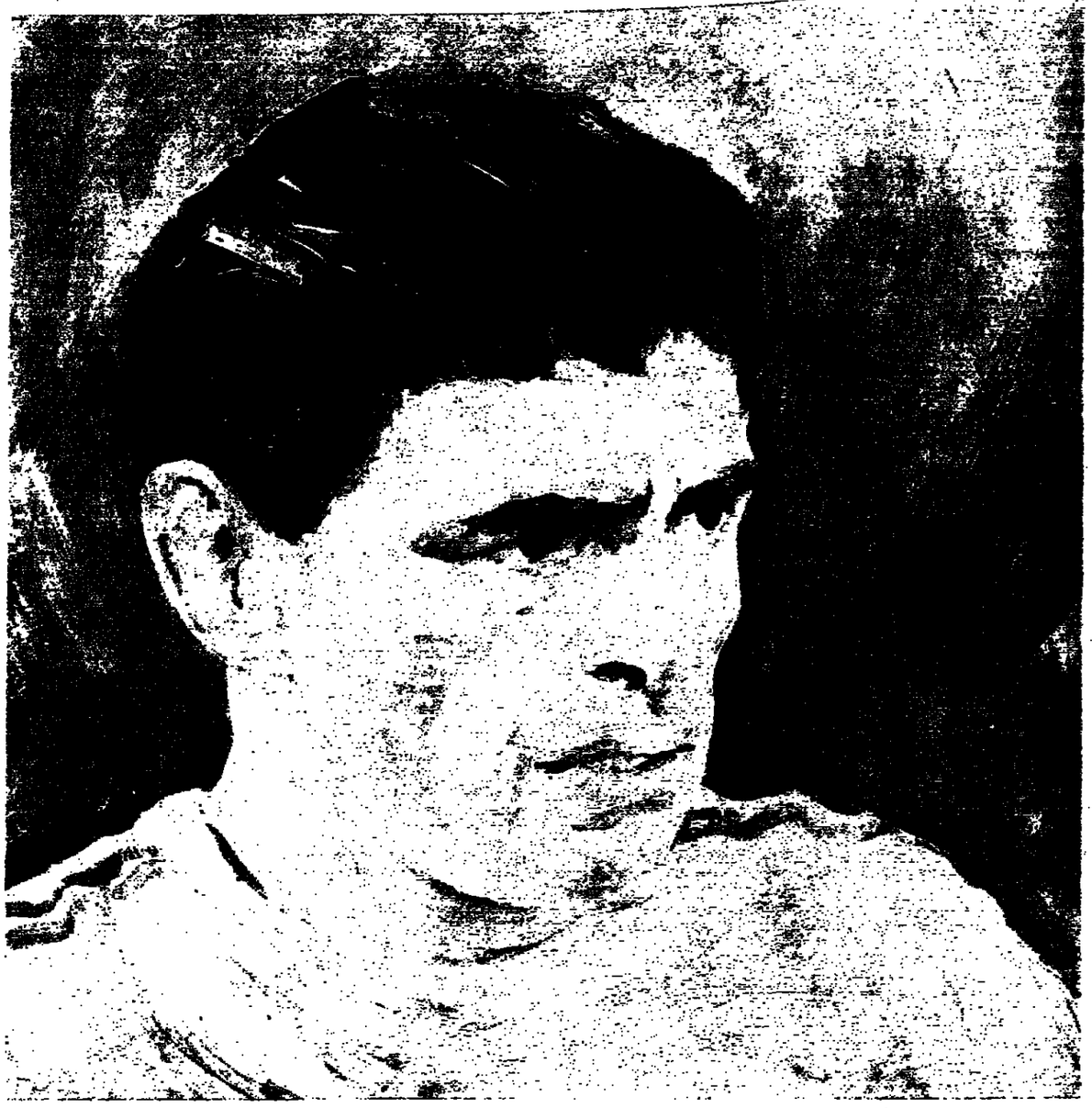
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Saturday portrait: Diego Maradona, by Rob Hughes, football correspondent

Man-Child returns for last bumpy ride on life's rich roller-coaster

ILLUSTRATION BY STEVE MARTIN



Today is the 33rd birthday of Diego Armando Maradona, football's famed and infamous Man-Child. Tomorrow in Sydney, he attempts another comeback for Argentina in the first leg of a World Cup qualifying play-off against Australia.

Maradona's game, his life, symbolises the Latin style: beauty laced with poison. He is back because his nation is desperate; like England, it teeters on the brink of elimination. Time is Maradona's enemy and time will soon tell whether it is a blessing or a blight to own a television satellite dish. The match is live at 8.15am and if the Great One's performance is good, all will remember what made him the genie of his generation. If he is bad, what will be witnessed is confirmation of the perishable nature of the sporting gift, especially in a body so abused.

Do people watch with their children, trusting Maradona to recreate the joys of the game? Or do they put the match on hold, lest he degrade himself and corrupt his game as he has before? Intriguing. The compulsion to rise and view the contest equates to the lure of heavyweight boxing, where the thrill of expectancy is edged with fear for the welfare of the performer. Yet people will watch, addicted, though not in the way he became an addict to cocaine.

Reality will not stand back and allow him to do his thing. Australia's players are, almost to a man, hardened by European club football. Their approach is brusque, harsh and sometimes borderline. They will hound him, seeking out any weaknesses. He has slimmed down dramatically, shedding over two stone, but that may sap his stamina. In any case, there will not be the acceleration, once clocked at 3.8sec for 30 metres, to take him away from trouble.

Yet he looks fine. He speaks of resurrection, of two years more in the Argentina team. Katherine Hepburn once said the art of performing in declining years was "selling one's deteriorating self". The actress and the footballer are not so far apart.

The rise, fall and return of Maradona is a soap opera of a street urchin elevated to the tables of kings. He sank into the company of criminals yet, when arrested for cocaine use and "passing on", Argentina's government preferred to rehabilitate rather than jail him. Not since Eva Peron has anyone come closer than Maradona to expressing the Argentinian soul. He is good, he is bad: he sways from innocence to wickedness and everything he does is charged with emotion. He became so much his nation's image abroad that President Carlos Menem, the head of the republic, said: "After raising him to the level of a holy idol, we cannot crucify him."

And so, tomorrow, even though the Argentinian football association once refused to speak his name, he is back as inspiration for a team that lost its last World Cup qualifying match 5-0 to Colombia. How tempting it is to love Maradona for his artistry and to loathe him for not being man enough to wear fame sportingly. Victor Lupo, the general secretary of Argentina's National Sporting Council, calls Maradona "a victim of modernity".

> The rise, fall and return of Maradona is a soap opera of a street urchin elevated to the tables of kings

After primary school, which finished at 13, Maradona did not go on to secondary education. There are few people in the world, even with all the education available, who would be prepared enough to face the pressures that he has been through. Thus, to restore him as a sporting idol and as a man who could be rid of the disease of drugs, was a challenge both the president and the government decided to accept. Lupo's view is interesting in that it reverses the present cry in England of football clubs demanding more time out of school influence with gifted children. Where it went right and wrong for Maradona is the conundrum of the player of today, one who learned in boyhood in Buenos Aires how grown men would lie, cheat and pay under the counter for his talent.

At nine, he travelled two hours a day across the city from his shanty town to play for a team known as Los Cebollitas — the Little Onions. He met rich club owners who were something in Argentinian society and, instinctively, he knew that they would offer bribes to his father, Papa Diego, to break contracts already signed. Nothing, except the extent of the finances, changed over a 16-year career in which he was sold five times — from Argentinos Juniors to Boca Juniors, to Barcelona, to Napoli, to Sevilla and, this month, to Newell's Old Boys in Rosario.

The transfer fees have added up to more than $30 million (about £20.5 million). What Maradona has earned is anyone's speculation, but in the year following 1986, when he captained Argentina to World Cup glory, his salary alone was $3 million.

When he looks in the mirror, he sees features that are Spanish-Indian, the poorest of the Latin poor, the lowest of his people's social strata. To hide from the excesses of football, he recently returned to the north, to his father's home village, and found fleeting tranquility before yet again attempting to ride football's roller-coaster.

Maradona's imprint is on four World Cups. In 1978, there were the tears of the 17-year-old baby genius, crying in public at being left out of the team. In 1982, kicked as if were the ball, he retaliated and was sent off against Brazil. The 1986 World Cup brought the "Hand of God" goal against England, followed in the same match by an absolute masterpiece. In the final 20 yards, with eight touches of his left foot and countless subtle shifts of balance and direction, he outwitted three English defenders — Stevens, Butcher and Fenwick — before a final touch guided the ball beyond the sprawling Shilton. By 1990, the flawed genius was an inhabitant of Naples, where his volatility could, like Vesuvius, erupt at any time. He was already callused by the doctors, who put painkillers into his back, his knee, his ankle and risked his future. In that 1990 World Cup, with Argentina playing a brutal game, Maradona, the captain, once more personified them, starting the tournament with an ankle swollen by a blood clot the size of a golf ball.

But the corruptions, the beauty, the sense of values were probably formed in the cradle. Maradona was raised in a two-roomed shanty house in Villa Miseria Fiorito. When I visited there two years ago, I found the house in a mud street. At the end of it was wasteland on which mongrels, cockerels, and piglets rummaged through rotting vegetation. Across this swamp was the bone factory of an old slaughter house where Maradona's father, one of the lucky employed people of Fiorito, worked. Down the road was a mud flat where the Hand of God was as practised an art by the gifted child as any other facet that came instinctively to Maradona.

Maradona, both feted and reviled for his origins, skills and behaviour, is a one-off ... but perhaps not so. In Naples, an unmarried mother christened her son Diego Armando and claimed this was his father's name. She won court backing in her pursuit of child support — £2,300 a month from Maradona — but has seen nothing of him or his fortune. However, there may be a dividend. Diego III, now eight, has impressed in a boy's football tournament in Naples. They are saying what she said, that the bloodline will tell all.

Guernsey power to greater glories

FROM DAVID RHYS JONES IN SUN CITY, FLORIDA

FOR the second day in succession, it was Guernsey and Spain who attracted most attention in the Atlantic Rim outdoor bowls championships at Sun City Center.

Guernsey, with a 29-18 victory over the host country, took over from Wales as the league leaders in the triples table. Jean Simon and Eunice Thompson have never played at international level before, but they have given Sally Paul such sound support that, in their first nine rounds, Guernsey have lost only once.

Given that there are only three clubs on the island, and a mere 120 or so women bowlers to choose from, Guernsey have no right to be so successful. Their 12-12 draw with England, who can choose from over 50,000 players, was followed by victories over such heavyweights as the world champions, Scotland, Ireland and South Africa.

The South Africans fell victim yesterday to the other surprise packet of these championships — Spain. Hester Bekker and Barbara Redshaw, of South Transvaal, were doing very nicely, leading their "Spanish" opponents, Pam Cole and Jean Taylor, 17-1, after eight ends.

Of all the U-turns and topsy-turvy results so far recorded in this strange venue, where the inhabitants are all over 55, the way that Cole and Taylor, originally from the New Forest and Brentwood respectively, came back to win 27-24, was undoubtedly the most spectacular.

Pairs: Eighth round: Ireland (B Cameron and P Nolan) bt United States, 28-10; Guernsey (J Nicolle and A Simon) bt Jersey (M Le Marquand and S Syvret), 24-13; England (G Daniel and N Shaw) bt Namibia, 23-16; Scotland (J Lindores and S McCrone) bt Canada, 23-14; Spain bt Argentina, 24-20, South Africa bt Wales (L Evans and B Morgan), 28-14. Ninth round: United States bt Guernsey, 35-16; Ireland bt England, 23-17; Jersey bt Canada, 23-14; Namibia bt Argentina, 29-13; Scotland bt Wales, 22-12; Spain bt South Africa, 27-24. Triples: Eighth round: Ireland (N Allely, C O'Gorman, F Elliott) bt United States, 22-7; Guernsey (J Simon, E Thompson, S Paul) bt Jersey (S Nightingale, V Stead, J Jones), 18-14; England (S Page, E Bassell, M Hegarty) bt Namibia, 23-7; Scotland (S Gourley, J Maxwell, F Whyte) drew with Canada, 13-13; Argentina bt Spain, 21-19; Wales (M Davies, V Howell, R Jones) bt South Africa, 21-11. Ninth round: Guernsey bt United States, 29-18; Ireland bt England, 27-10; Jersey bt Canada, 18-12; Namibia bt Argentina, 20-6; Scotland bt Wales, 17-8; South Africa bt Spain, 18-13.

Macari and Celtic dive in at deep end

BY RODDY FORSYTH

WHILE the Old Firm collision at Ibrox today has been billed as Lou Macari's first game as manager of Celtic, it cannot yet be said that he is in charge of the team. The Celtic side that lines up for a premier division fixture in which victory would see it leapfrog its fiercest rivals in the league table will have been selected by Frank Connor.

Connor, who has acted as interim manager since the resignation of Liam Brady three weeks ago, has an unbeaten record to show for his incumbency and the players are glad that he is in Macari's plans, at least for the time being. The new manager is assembling his own backroom team and yesterday it was announced that Ashley Grimes and Peter Henderson, two of his assistants at Stoke City, had joined the Parkhead staff and that a third, Chic Bates, would be added next week when Celtic visit Portugal for the return leg of their Uefa Cup tie with Sporting Lisbon.

Many factors should add an edge to Celtic's desire to win this fixture, assuming that extra motivation is ever needed for a Glasgow derby. The players must prove themselves to their new manager, they will be spurred on by the ending of a period of flux and instability and they are desperate to exorcise the memory of their failure against Rangers at Ibrox in the semi-final of the Scottish League Cup last month.

Rangers, though, have shown strong indications that they may be returning to the form that carried them to the Scottish treble last season. On Sunday, they retained the first trophy of the season when they beat Hibernian to take the Scottish League Cup and McCoist's winning goal signalled that his skill had not withered during his five-month absence with a broken leg.

Walter Smith, the Rangers manager, said yesterday that McCoist and Hateley may resume their partnership in attack from the start, although McCoist is not yet fully fit. "The problem is how you get him back to that level. Keeping him on the bench doesn't help, so you have to think about playing him."



Macari: assembles aides

Rangers name the same 13 players who made up the squad for the final last Sunday and add Murray, Pressley and Hagan. For Celtic, Galloway will play in the reserves and McNally is unlikely to play.

In a season in which consistency has been at a premium, both teams have begun to put together encouraging sequences. Rangers have won their past three games and Celtic have won two and drawn one, so the evidence suggests a score draw.

The meeting of Hibernian and Heart of Midlothian at Easter Road has its own resonances. The fortunes of these sides have presented a study in contrasts, with Hearts drifting towards the lower end of the table and Hibernian sustaining their position as league leaders against most expectations. Hibernian's performance against Rangers on Sunday was creditable, but they have the opportunity to soothe the pain of defeat today in a fixture have not won in 18 outings.

Hearts have been the subject of a takeover attempt valued at £1.7 million. The bid was made by a consortium headed by the Edinburgh caterer, Chris Robinson, but was rejected by the Hearts owner, Wallace Mercer.

Flowers can expect hot Kop reception

Keith Pike reveals that the team rejected by the Southampton goalkeeper is still the most expensively assembled in the country

HAVING failed to keep two Anfield appointments this week, Tim Flowers is expected to oblige at the third time of asking when he keeps goal for Southampton at Liverpool this afternoon. The Kop, not used to being snubbed, should ensure that his ears are kept warm, even if his hands may be left cold by the team they support.

Flowers twice declined to meet Souness, the Liverpool manager, for talks about a proposed £2 million-plus transfer from The Dell, apparently intent on learning what greater riches could be earned under Kenny Dalglish's management and Sir Jack Walker's cheque book at Blackburn Rovers. Yet while it appears that money is no object at Ewood Park, the bottom line shows that — in the red half of Liverpool at least — it still talks loudest on Merseyside.

David Batty, the £2.75 million Blackburn recruit from Leeds United, will make his debut at home to Tottenham Hotspur today, three days after he agreed to become the thirtieth player to be transferred between British clubs for a fee of £2 million or more (the first was Tony Cottee, who moved from West Ham United to Everton for £2.1 million in July 1988). Yet while Sir Jack's largesse means players' salaries at Blackburn are unrivalled, the club still has some way to go to match Liverpool's spending power.

Souness said yesterday that he would stick by the team that defeated Ipswich Town in the Coca-Cola Cup on Wednesday for the match against Southampton. That means places for two youngsters, Robbie Fowler and Dominic Matteo, who cost nothing, but room for five more who cost in excess of £2 million each. Throw in the odd England, Scotland and Zimbabwe international who came relatively cheaply and Flowers will be facing a team that took more than £13 million to assemble.

It would be different, of course, if Flowers was up against Liverpool's reserves — but not that much. The injured and out-of-favour at Anfield cost the best part of £8 million, making the squad, at just short of £21 million, the most expensive in the country.

Blackburn, whose present squad cost £15.8 million, are not even second in the spending league. Manchester United's outlay stands at £18.6 million and, as the champions go into today's match against Queens Park Rangers at Old Trafford nine points clear in the FA Carling Premiership, they will perhaps feel they have invested more wisely.

Rangers, too, can be admired for the way Gerry Francis has cut the club's cloth. The team that beat Millwall on Wednesday cost less in combined fees than Alan Shearer on his own, but they have now won five matches in succession and scored 17 goals in the process.

But what price Norwich City? Second in the Premiership and masters of Bayern Munich — so far — in the Uefa Cup, their team at Highbury on Tuesday, in the absence of Ekoku and Robins, cost a mere £1,480,000 and was unlucky not to beat Arsenal's £8.75 million assortment.

Manchester City, eighth in the big spending league, yesterday paid Shrewsbury Town £500,000 for their striker, Carl Griffiths. The Wales under-21 international has scored seven goals this season and 53 in total for the third division club. Coventry City have signed Julian Darby from Bolton for £150,000.

PREMIER SPENDERS

	Price of last team fielded (millions)	Price paid for squad (millions)
Liverpool	£13.025	£20.950
Man United	£12.535	£18.670
Blackburn	£9.345	£15.850
A Villa	£9.200	£13.840
Sheff Wed	£9.025	£13.400
Leeds	£9.725	£12.570
Arsenal	£8.750	£12.140

Tenacious Ebdon responds in style

BY PHIL YATES

PETER Ebdon, who has responded positively to every crisis throughout the tournament, recovered from a 3-1 interval deficit to lead John Parrott 5-3 in their best of 17 frame semi-final in the Skoda snooker grand prix at the Hexagon Theatre, Reading, yesterday.

Ebdon, the world No 21, was left requiring four of the closing nine frames this afternoon to secure his debut in the final of a ranking event. On the form he displayed in the second half of the opening session, the former world junior champion must be quietly confident of making that breakthrough.

Breaks of 54 and 108 helped carry Parrott into a 3-1 lead, but Ebdon's tenacity, which enabled him to recover from 4-1 down to beat Gary Wilkinson 5-4 in the quarter-finals, then proved invaluable as he refused to allow Parrott to establish an overnight advantage.

Parrott was frozen out in the following three frames. The 1991 world champion scored only 23 points in total as Ebdon first drew level at 3-3 with breaks of 64 and 61 before adding a disjointed seventh frame to edge ahead for the first time.

Early in that frame, Parrott, in prime position, missed an elementary black from point-blank range and another glaring error cost him dear in the eighth. Ebdon was first in with a break of 55, but he missed a long red and Parrott replied with 31.

The Liverpudlian, 29, who has not won a tournament since the Dubai Classic 12 months ago, was well placed to clear the colours and make it 4-4 when he missed a straightforward green to a baulk pocket after potting a more difficult yellow from distance.

Should Ebdon convert his two frame advantage into victory today, he will meet Steve Davis, the six-times world and United Kingdom champion, or Ken Doherty in the final on Sunday.

SCORE: Semi-final: P Ebdon (Eng) leads J Parrott (Eng), 5-3.

Jury still out in trials of round-by-round scorecards

FROM SRIKUMAR SEN BOXING CORRESPONDENT IN TULSA

THE jury is still out on the judges. The recent suggestion by Don King, the promoter, that scores in boxing matches should be announced to the public after each round was given a trial yesterday. It was used in selected early bouts on the undercard of the Tommy Morrison-Michael Bentt contest for the World Boxing Organisation heavyweight championship title. Trials are to continue for several months.

After each round, the three judges hold up large red and blue cards with the scores on. In championship bouts, the coloured cards could be shown on television screens round the arena, but the promoter, Bob Arum, said it was too early to say whether the idea would be successful. He said he intended to test it for a few more months before considering whether to seek the approval of the world bodies.

"I think this is a good idea because there have been instances of some atrocious decisions recently," Arum said. "The decision is given at the end and everyone runs for cover. The present system is pretty bad. Maybe this one will work. It would certainly bring boxing into line with other sports. We tried it recently in Boston for a whole card and the fans loved it. I'm going to give it a trial on the undercard for a few more weeks before trying it on bigger fights."

Bill Cayton, the manager of Morrison and a respected boxing historian, liked the idea. "There are pluses and minuses," he said. "I would like to see a test done in more important fights and under pressure before television and real audiences, where people are not still walking in or still at the bar."

He said that there was a chance of trouble in the crowd if a poor decision was put up round after round, but it was still worth giving it a try. "My own feeling is it could be a plus."

Morrison's trainer, Tommy Virgets, thought the idea was a good one in order to keep the public informed, but felt the scores should be kept away from the judges.

"They'd be watching each other rather than the fights," Virgets said. "It's worth trying but must be tested on important fights before being used for championship fights."

While the system might work with the American public, who are generally well behaved, it is most unlikely to go down well in countries where the crowds are more volatile. The judges could also be intimidated into giving scores favourable to the home boxer and they would not take kindly to boxers who were well in front running away for the rest of the bout.

To bring the idea nearer home, who can say what would have been the reaction of the 41,000 crowd at the Nigel Benn-Chris Eubank bout at Old Trafford to Carol Castellano giving the last six rounds to Benn?

☐ Andy Till, the holder, will meet Robert McCracken for the British light-middleweight title at Caesar's Palace, Dunstable, on December 8.

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Touring team confronted by club spirit as South draw on champions' resolve

All Blacks promised tough passage


MARC ASPLAND

Jeff Wilson, the flying wing, has still to display his full potential as a runner and goalkicker for the New Zealanders as they go into the hardest match of their tour so far

BY DAVID HANDS
RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

YOU could argue that the New Zealanders will today face the hardest match of the 13 on their rugby union tour of Britain. In the tight Redruth ground, Hellfire Corner and all, they will meet what amounts to a club unit, since the South and South-West Division consists of 11 Bath players and four individuals of outstanding quality.

Every other fixture, internationals included, matches them with more fragmented teams drawn from a mixture of clubs with only a limited shelf life, compared with the structured provincial teams that form the staple diet for touring sides to New Zealand. That Bath have been, for nearly a decade, England's champion club adds vastly to the stature of the game today before a passionate Cornish crowd.

The scant preparation of some of the teams to come is emphasised by the requirement that two-thirds of the South-West match party must hurry back to Bristol this evening to take part in squad training for the England A fixture against the New Zealanders in Gateshead next Sunday. What shape they will be in when they assemble at the Bristol University ground to begin their preparations tomorrow morning is anybody's guess.

Though he may not say so, Jack Rowell, the England A manager, must surely believe that the players he coaches at Bath are more capable of beating the All Blacks today than the A team which will be confirmed on Wednesday. John Hall, the South-West captain in the absence of the injured Stuart Barnes, has no such problem: "I think we can win," he said.

"These All Blacks are difficult to break down, but they found it impossible to break down the Midlands defence and we hammered plenty of tries past them in the divisional championship." Not, of course, that the comparison is entirely valid: that was a different Midland XV and today's New Zealanders are a different combination from those on Tuesday at Leicester.

They must be confident that their pack can win sufficient ball for a revamped back line to show their paces; in particular, the All Blacks will look hard at their midfield, bearing in mind the knee injury to Lee Stensness which is causing concern. "We cannot afford to be one back short for too long," Laurie Mains, the coach, said. A decision will be made next week on whether Stensness is fit enough to stay with the tour.

Jeff Wilson ran in two tries quite smartly against London a week ago, but no more than any tolerably efficient wing would have done. If he is half the footballer he is said to be, there is more to come from young Wilson, as runner and goalkicker. The touring side must develop back-up for Matthew Cooper in the kicking department with the two internationals in mind and Wilson or Jon Preston may be one of those.

But the divisional backs may fancy their own chances in a running game. Jonathan Callard is closing in on the vacant England full back berth and his young threequarters will not lack adventure. Mike Catt, the South African who replaces Barnes at stand-off half, is a physical, combative player who enjoys taking opponents on. A good game today may take him alongside, if not past, the two Pauls, Challinor and Grayson, on the representative ladder while Nick Beal, in contrast, is a gliding, swooping player in the centre.

Beal is delighted that accident rather than design has given him this game: had Jeremy Guscott been fit, Beal would have played on the wing, where he spent most of his first league season with Northampton, but his creative instincts deserve a place nearer the hub of the action.

"I played stand-off for most of my career at school and for High Wycombe," Beal said, "but that was because I happened to be the best man for the job. I prefer centre and I'm pleased to be playing there."

It is a big day, too, for Andy Blackmore, the Bristol lock: should Martin Bayfield's injury keep him out of the England team next month, then Blackmore must head the list of potential replacements. A case of Bath, for a change, being able to do Bristol a power of good.

SOUTH AND SOUTH-WEST DIVISION (Bath unless stated): J Callard; P Hull (Bristol), P de Glanville, N Beal (Northampton), A Lumsden; M Catt, K Bracken (Bristol); C Clark (Oxford University/Bath), G Dawe, V Ubogu, J Hall (captain), N Redman, A Blackmore (Bristol), A Robinson, B Clarke.
NEW ZEALANDERS: J Timu (Otago); J Wilson (Otago), F Bunce (North Harbour), M Cooper (Waikato), V Tuigamala (Auckland); S Bachop (Otago), J Preston (Wellington); C Dowd (Auckland), S Fitzpatrick (Auckland, captain), O Brown (Auckland), J Joseph (Otago), I Jones (Northland), S Gordon (Waikato), P Henderson (Southland), A Pene (Otago).
Referee: C Thomas (Wales).

Football blind to need for decent shirts



SIMON BARNES
On Saturday

IT REALLY is time to introduce a Campaign for Real Football Shirts. If anything demonstrates the cupidity, not to mention the crassness, of the game, it is the constantly changing kits, in ever-fouler colours and ever more throw-up-making combinations. Players should refuse to play in them and supporters should refuse to wear them. But no, the modern strip has turned the world of football into the world of Shellsuit Man. Footballers should look dashing. Marketing men and designers — a devastating one-two — make them look tacky. Worse, they make goalkeepers look like eejits.

All of which brings me to a recent match between Stourbridge and Evesham United in the Beazer Homes League, midland division. Stourbridge turned out in dark red and black stripes, Evesham in black and white stripes. The match turned into a kind of Bridget Riley painting, of swirling colours and vertigo-inducing patterns. Matters reached their zenith when Stuart Stokes and Jason Lowe, of Stourbridge, had to leave the field requiring stitches — after they had been hammered by their captain, John Horne.

The Stourbridge manager, Neil Rioch, summed up: "We lost two players after 25 minutes and the first half was disintegrating into a bit of a farce. I was absolutely fuming. We could see the problems and we were shouting to the ref to allow us to change our shirts. Then, at half-time, John Horne told me he was colour-blind, hence he was the perpetrator."

After half-time, the referee permitted Stourbridge to change into their away strip, in a fetching shade of yellow. The final score was Stokes six stitches, Lowe five stitches, Horne one stitch.



Making a fist of it

Meanwhile, the theme of domestic violence continues as I learn of a thrilling match between D'Alberton Callies and Sundowns. It took place in Durban, South Africa, and involved the sending-off of the Callies captain, Calvin Petersen. His midfield colleague, Zane Moosa, provided a poor pass. Petersen did what many players of all sports dream about but few dare to do. He thumped his team-mate in the face and won himself everlasting glory at the expense of a red card. Callies had taken a 1-0 lead but they lost 2-1 and their relegation worries increase.

From bad to verse

I have a first response to the rich words of Greg Tingey, "Britain's Greatest Football Poet", who burst into this column last week with his embittered ode to the Rotterdam referee. The hubristic Mr Tingey is answered by Sean Gorney, the first two stanzas of whose poem, also about Rotterdam, follow, though its subject is Graham Taylor:

He sits aloof, a man alone,
No one cares any more,
No ringing of the telephone,
No knocking at the door.

The man in black had cost him dear.
Sure, 'twas his fault alone.
We should, indeed, have had it won,
If the red card had been shown."

Stepping out

As the two New Zealand rugby teams, the All Blacks (union) and the Kiwis (league) continue their tours of this country, so the problem of the haka, the piece of ritual sporting intimidation based on a Maori war-dance, is still with us. A good haka is worth a three-point start, I would say, so a team must learn to deal with it. The Irish once tried a menacing advance in a single line, a tactic that made for a fascinating game. The Australians tried a novel ploy of blowing kisses and teasing. Nice idea, but it brought flak about their lack of "respect". So what is the answer? One correspondent wrote to suggest a quiet but intense performance of the hokey-cokey. Who could object to that?

Pressing matters

Our old friend, Primo Nebiolo, the man who runs world athletics, does not like Brits. In particular, he does not like British journos, though that does not make him as much a man of discriminating tastes as you might think. He does not like the way British journos keep harping on about matters like his equivocal action over the notorious fiddling of the world long-jump championship in 1987. Various deals, bargains and commercial coups receive, as a matter of routine, hard and critical examination. This practice is far from unique to British journos, but Primo feels it more sorely from this source.

He moved the headquarters of the International Amateur (ha!) Athletic Federation from London, and he has just issued the invitations for his annual gala dinner, a do organised by a subsidiary (ie: the same) organisation called the International Amateur (ha! again) Athletic Foundation, at which the male and female athlete of the year will be announced. He has invited 72 journos in all, 18 Italians, 13 French, the British Press Association — and one other Brit. It is all supposed to be a snub to our noble press — particularly as hot tips for the athletes of the year are Sally Gunnell and Colin Jackson. Brits through and through.

Australia take heart on venture into unknown

FROM PETER BILLS IN BORDEAUX

AUSTRALIANS traditionally welcome a rugby union tour of France as enthusiastically as a glass of warm beer. The rugby can be brutal and the regional sides seem, at times, specially selected to soften up the touring team for the internationals. The language is a constant problem and the French capacity for introducing disingenuous tricks remains unimpaired.

The Wallabies have never won a series in France, but Bob Dwyer's 1993 party began their preparations for the international today with considerable optimism. Dwyer, fortified by a 100 per cent record from the build-up matches, has been hugely encouraged not only by the form of his key players — Lynagh, Campese, Horan and Little — but the emergence of significant challenges for the 1995 squad that will defend the Rugby World Cup.

"That has been the bonus, we have found some real talent for the future," Dwyer said. "I am sure four others will come from outside this present squad to contest places at the World Cup."

Of the new team, the full back, Matthew Burke, 21, Garrick Morgan (lock) and Alastair Murdoch (wing) have excelled and the Wallabies looked a lean, hungry outfit during final practice at the Municipal Stadium here yesterday, on their last tour before the World Cup. Morgan, McCall and Gavin offer them a formidable lineout presence and Dwyer has been encouraged by the defence of his team throughout the tour.

France have prepared quietly under their coach, Berbizier, their performance in an autumn series as much a lottery as ever, though they impressed against Romania a fortnight ago. They rarely find their best form before the new year, but their success in South Africa last summer and the goalkicking threat offered by Thierry Lacroix demand respect. Philippe Sella in the centre will equal Serge Blanco's world record of 93 internationals in the match today and, all being well, will break the record in Paris next Saturday.

FRANCE: J-L Sadourny (Colomiers); P Bernat-Salles (Pau), P Sella (Agen), T Lacroix (Dax), P Saint-André (Montferrand), A Penaud (Brive), A Hueber (Toulon); L Armary (Lourdes), J-M Gonzalez (Boyonne), L Seigne (Mengnac), P Benetton (Agen), O Roumat (Dax, captain), O Merle (Grenoble), A Benazzi (Agen), M Cecillon (Bourgoin).
AUSTRALIA: M Burke (Easwood); D Campese (Randwick), J Little (Souths), T Horan (Souths), A Murdoch (Souths), M Lynagh (Brisbane University, captain), P Slattery (Brisbane University); T Daly (Randwick), P Kearns (Randwick), E McKenzie (Randwick), I Tabua (Brothers), R McCall (Brothers), G Morgan (Souths), D Wilson (Easts), T Gavin (Eastern Suburbs).
Referee: D Bishop (New Zealand).

☐ The French federation has banned Gerard Majoral, the Perpignan flanker, for three months after an incident a week ago when he stamped on Tim Gavin. The Australian No 8 needed 14 stitches to facial wounds after the match against Languedoc-Roussillon in Narbonne.

District final will provide pointer for tour match

BY ALAN LORIMER

SOUTH of Scotland have just ten days in which to finalise their preparations for their match against the New Zealanders on November 10 at Netherdale. Their performance today in the final of the McEwan's district championship against Glasgow at Melrose will, therefore, be a crucial indicator of their readiness to face the All Blacks.

Their team is strengthened by the return of Craig Chalmers and Tony Stanger, both of whom have played only a limited amount of rugby this season and whose form will be scrutinised carefully by the national selectors.

South, aware that the North and Midlands forwards took the honours in the second half of the game last weekend at Jedburgh, will want to ensure no such repetition against Glasgow's pack. Much will depend on the ability of the South front row to combat the combined strength of Alan Watt, Kevin McKenzie and Brian Robertson in the set scrums and of Doddie Weir to gain the advantage over Shane Munro in the lineout.

Glasgow have a useful front jumper in Malcolm Norval and height at the tail of the lineout, but the South have the more experienced set of backs to whom Chalmers will give authoritative direction from stand-off half.

Gavin Hastings, the British Isles captain, returns after playing in the Naas Botha testimonial match in Pretoria last weekend to add strength to an Edinburgh side that lost 21-6 to Glasgow in the opening championship game. They can salvage some pride by beating North and Midlands in the encounter for third place, which forms the first of the double-headed programme at Melrose today.

In England, the Midlands must raise themselves four days after their efforts against the New Zealanders to beat London in the CIS divisional championship at Leicester. Should London win, then they stand between the South-West and a second successive title, but they must first shrug off the after-effects of the 27-point defeat by the All Blacks.

Neath, who should sustain their leadership of the Heineken League by beating troubled Newbridge, are to appeal against the sending-off of Ian Boobyer, their flanker, against Cardiff last weekend. Boobyer was dismissed for stamping, but the club have studied video of the incident and believe an appeal is justified.

Llanelli, the champions, should bring the biggest crowd that Dunvant have ever hosted. About 4,000 are anticipated at the Broadacre ground, though there is a counter-attraction down the road at St Helen's, where Swansea meet Newport and will have Robert Jones and Scott Gibbs back.

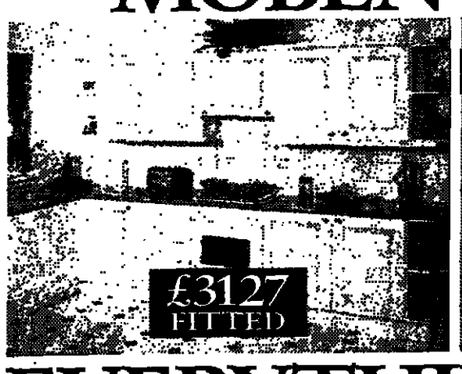
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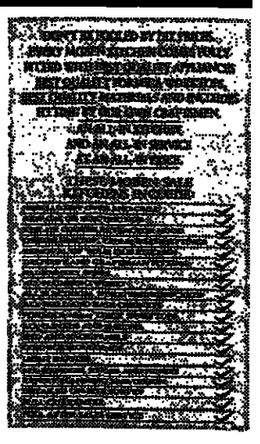
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SPORT

SATURDAY OCTOBER 30 1993

Full-time referees planned by Uefa

FROM DAVID MILLER IN STOCKHOLM

WORRIED by inconsistent refereeing at the highest level, Uefa, European football's governing body, will introduce professional referees next year. It is expected that there will eventually be a full-time pool of 40 to 50 referees to handle the three European club competitions and the quadrennial European championship. The decision will be taken at Uefa's executive committee meeting in December.

This comes as welcome news, particularly in the wake of the lamentable performance by Karl-Josef Assenmacher, the German referee, who was subsequently suspended, in his handling of England's World Cup qualifying tie against Holland in Rotterdam, their 2-0 defeat



Today is the 33rd birthday of football's famed and infamous Man-Child. Tomorrow, Diego Maradona returns for Argentina in the World Cup, the latest episode in the soap opera of a street urchin.

Rob Hughes, page 38

probably being the end of their attempt to reach the finals. Lennart Johansson, the Swedish president of Uefa, said here yesterday: "Of course, it's too late for anything to be done about the obvious defensive professional foul in Rotterdam.

"Koeman, the Dutch defender, should have been off the field for his foul on Platt, though that might not have saved England all the same."

The fact remains that a previous errant decision had denied Holland a sound goal, for alleged offside, and it would have put Holland 1-0 ahead at the time of Koeman's offence.

Assenmacher has since been removed from taking charge of the crucial qualifying tie between Belgium and the Representation of Czechs and Slovaks next month.

A directive from Fifa, the sport's world governing body, states that players who commit deliberate fouls on opponents in goalscoring positions should be sent off. The directive is unequivocal but has been inconsistently applied at club and international level.

Johansson said there will be an interim period while professionals are gradually introduced. "Once we establish professional referees, then we can expect the best," he said.

Johansson concedes that referees will be allowed, or even encouraged, to maintain another part-time career so that if they decline in the football arena, say, in their late thirties, they still have an alternative source of employment and income to which they can transfer.

To ensure the highest standards by referees and linesmen, a ranking list will be introduced. It will be monitored and achieved by an equally professional group of observer delegates.

"We have to ensure that the very best of the referees are appointed to the A risk matches," Johansson said. "The number of these is increasing as the number of formerly lesser clubs and nations are able to challenge the traditionally strongest sides.

"There is no longer that much difference between the top and the middle of the game. Look at the outcome of recent competitions."

Johansson also hopes that a new and more up-to-date system of ranking clubs and nations will be introduced, being based more on present form than, as at the moment, on an aggregate of form over the past five years.

"We have to study the system," he said, "but when making the draw for competitions, the ranking should accurately reflect the present strengths.

"England have not had success since 1966," Johansson added, "and it is important for European football that they are in business [at the top]. It's a bad blow for European football that they may miss the finals in the United States, though we have to say that Holland played a very intelligent game."

Racewalkers see light at end of tunnel



Shoes that are made for walking, with a built-in alarm which could put an end to the scenes of chaos witnessed at the world championships. Photograph: Marc Aspland

David Powell on how high-tech could steal a march on those stepping outside the rules

NO ATHLETES train harder than international racewalkers, and for what? Every time they go into a big race, they are entering a lottery. The system of judging has been left behind by the march of progress of the sport's competitors.

Yet scenes such as those witnessed at the world championships in Stuttgart, when walking put its head in the stocks and took a pelting, could perhaps be avoided in future. At Wimbledon yesterday, walking was introduced to the "Run-Alarm", a device which, as its inventor, Dennis Furlong, demonstrated, can detect illegal foot movement using technology.

Until now, the naked eye has been the arbiter. "Subjective judging," as Furlong put it. Furlong flew in from his home in Canada to give the world's first demonstration of the battery-operated device. It emits a cautionary signal if a walker is lifting (stepping outside the rules by breaking contact with ground), then lights up when he exceeds his permitted warnings. A judge can disqualify the competitor by the evidence of the light. "They can look at the walker and be sure whether he is legal or illegal," Furlong, a 48-year-old former competitive race-walker, said.

By the end of the session, Ian McCombie, who holds five British records, was wishing the "Run-Alarm" a speedy entry into competitive walking: "It is exactly the tonic that the sport needs," McCombie said. "My physics O-level tells me that it is sound in principle, my walking experience tells me that, practically, it has easy application. I am amazed that it can be done so easily."

Ray Hall, Britain's national event coach for men's walking, was also impressed. The judging system was developed at a time when it was possible to monitor walking in compliance with the rules, but its competitors now move up to 20 per cent faster than they did 25 years ago. The naked eye has struggled to cope.

"I do not the think the IAAF [International Amateur Athletic Federation] can afford to ignore any way forward," Hall said.

Peter Marlow, the federation's technical adviser on racewalking, was not able to be present but said last night: "We would look at it most favourably subject to it being proved under test conditions."

An electronic module is fitted to the top of each shoe, with contacts in the tongue of the right shoe and the sole of the left. Messages are sent through the athlete's body using electronic impulses. "The shoes talk to each other," Furlong, a doctor of medicine, said.

It adds 180g to the weight of a pair of racing shoes which, without it, usually weigh about 600g. The additional weight would slow walkers down.

"That is absolutely irrelevant compared with the benefit," McCombie said. "If I thought I could have something that was going to monitor walking fairly, I would walk round in Army boots."

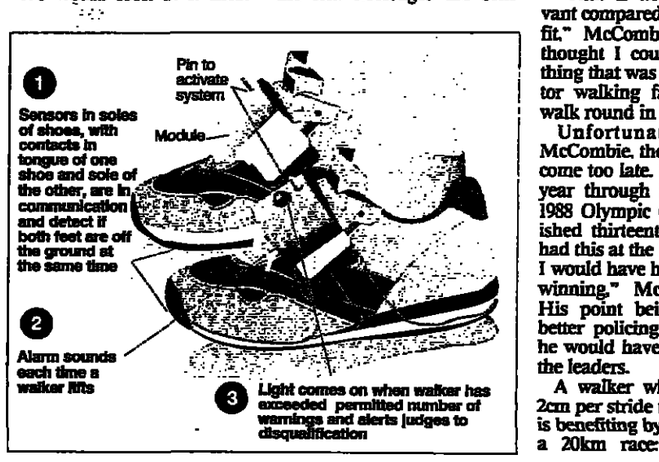
Unfortunately for McCombie, the invention has come too late. He retired last year through injury. In the 1988 Olympic Games he finished thirteenth. "If we had had this at the 1988 Olympics, I would have had a chance of winning," McCombie said. His point being that, with better policing of technique, he would have been up with the leaders.

A walker who gains, say, 2cm per stride through lifting is benefiting by 400 metres in a 20km race: at the 1988 Olympics, McCombie was 400 metres behind the winner. At McCombie's British record pace in 1988, that is two minutes' walking. "The advantage gained in illegal racewalking is more than you gain with performance-enhancing drugs," Furlong said.

McCombie is sure he was walking legally and equally certain that he was one of the few. The strict judging system in Britain promotes international walkers less likely to gain from undetected lifting at the championships.

"Most top walkers do work at mobility and technique, but they are going to have to refine that aspect to stay legal," Paul Warburton, walking correspondent to *Athletics Weekly* said. He expressed some reservation at the difficulty a judge may have in spotting a small light bulb either in sunlight or amid a group of walkers but was keen that the federation should see the advantages. Before the public sees another debacle.

China chase record, page 36



Keegan and Cole settle argument

KEVIN Keegan, the Newcastle United manager, yesterday resolved his differences with Andy Cole and said the club may have been partly to blame for the much-publicised dispute with the striker.

"He is such a good player and has made such an impact that maybe as a club we have failed to protect him," Keegan said. "This club is going along at such a pace perhaps we have overlooked the small things like players settling in."

Cole has been restored to the Newcastle squad for their FA Carling Premiership match against Wimbledon at St James' Park today. He had been omitted from the Coca-Cola Cup tie between the sides at Selhurst Park on Wednesday, after which Keegan criticised Cole's attitude. It later emerged that Cole, the Nottingham-born striker who joined Newcastle for £1.75 million from Bristol City last season, had walked out of the team hotel after complaining of feeling homesick.

"I've had a good chat with Andy," Keegan said. "I will be here for the next three years and so will he. He's a smashing lad, but we have got to accept that Newcastle geographically is a difficult move if you're not a Geordie."

Lee Clark, who had been disciplined by Keegan for his reaction to being substituted during a league match at Southampton last Sunday, is also recalled.

Brabham returns to get new team on track

BY OLIVER HOLT

HIS hair is a little grey at the sides and his hearing is not what it used to be, but Sir Jack Brabham, the three-times world champion and one of the most famous names in motor racing, returned to the sport with his enthusiasm undimmed yesterday as one of the leading figures in an attempt to launch a new team into Formula One next season.

More than 30 years ago, Sir Jack left the Cooper team with which he had won the first two of his world titles, in 1959 and 1960, to give his own technical ideas free rein and start up the now defunct Brabham team. In 1966, when many observers thought he was past his best, he became the first man to win a race and the championship in a car bearing his own name.

Yesterday, in an almost sepulchral setting in a small factory in Banbury, he confirmed his involvement in a similarly daring project and, in the process, swept away much of the cynicism that has surrounded the efforts of Simtek Research to break into Formula One next season, despite an absence of racing experience and the untried talents of the nascent team's precocious designer, Nick Wirth.

Wirth, 27, exudes practical optimism and said he estimated the team had "an 80 to 90 per cent chance" of appearing in Formula One next season: "We have been dribbling the ball around the goalposts and now we just need to knock it into the net," he said, "but part of the reason we have got so far is because of the bravery and commitment of Sir Jack."

"Simtek's challenge is like the one I faced in 1962," Sir Jack, 67, said at the unveiling ceremony of the first of the company's sleek, high-nosed S941 cars, resplendent in purple and black and designed to comply with new refuelling regulations. "This is a new team setting off and it has got to prove itself. Nick is going to have the same sort of satisfaction I had in getting my team into Formula One and winning races.

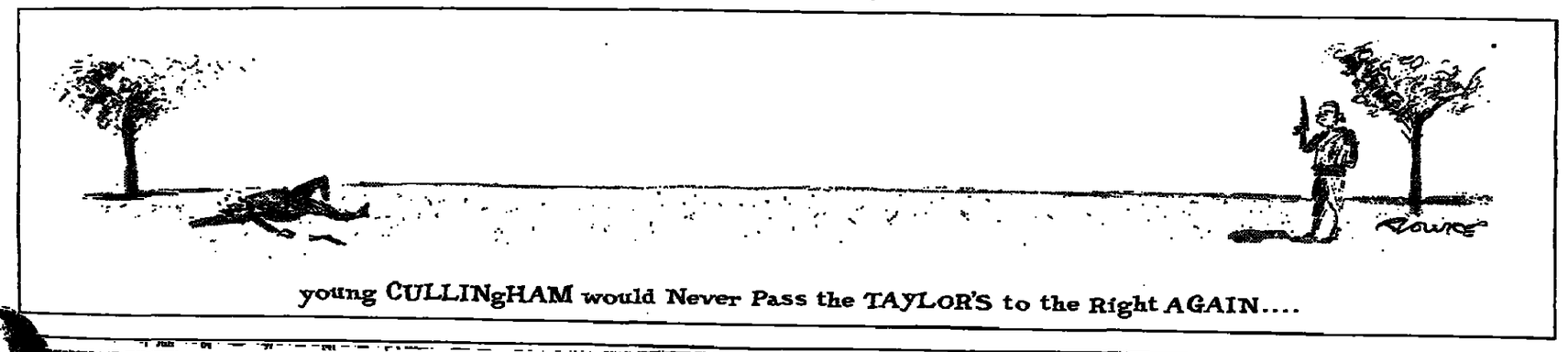
"I have been firing along on this for quite a while. I am very enthusiastic about it all and I think the team will do very well very quickly. I like the technical concept and I think Nick is one of the most promising designers in the industry at the moment. I am very confident that he has built a car that will be right up there. Now that I can actually show people pictures of the car, it should be a lot easier to sell."

Sir Jack's role has not been confined to trying to recruit the sponsors the team needs if its cars are to take their place on the grid at the first race of the 1994 season, in Buenos Aires on March 20. Sir Jack's son, David, who has been confirmed as one of the team's two drivers, said: "Dad is not beyond picking out problems in the design of a modern Formula One car. He will point something out to Nick and Nick will go away and have a look at it. It would be stupid not to use all the experience and all the knowledge he has."

Sir Jack concluded his appearance in Banbury by expressing mild dismay at the antics of his fellow three-times world champion, Ayrton Senna, who punched Jordan's debutant Irish driver, Eddie Irvine, in the aftermath of a keenly-contested Japanese grand prix. Senna learnt yesterday that both he and his sparring partner must appear before a meeting of the International Automobile Federation world council in Paris on December 10, where they will face fines or possible suspension at the beginning of next season if they are found guilty of bringing the sport into disrepute.

Nigel Mansell, Senna's one-time nemesis, returned to the track to make his first competitive appearance in Britain since winning the Formula One world title in 1992 and the IndyCar series this season.

True to form, Mansell was involved in a spectacular crash during practice for the touring car race tomorrow at Donington, Leicestershire, in which he will compete in a Ford Mondeo, and finished more than a second slower than the pacesetter, Paul Radisich. "I need to learn this car and how to get the most from it," he said. "I am still getting up to speed."



هكذا من الأصل



AFTER THE BOOKER

Today's novel under tomorrow's gavel

Joseph Connolly, page 7



PAUL HEINEY

Small-talk with a crashing boar

Murphy's law, page 18



SITTING PRETTY

Win a pair of chess chairs worth £3,000

Andrew Varah, page 9

GETTY TICKETS OFFER

Page 15

WEEKEND

THE TIMES SATURDAY OCTOBER 30 1993

Photograph: MARTIN BEDDALL



The spirit of Sir Christopher Wren raising a ghost of a smile at Sway Tower in Hampshire. Wren was commissioned to design the tower at the ripe old age of 247, which may explain why he appears to have lost his touch a little

A few of my favourite haunts

Alan Coren will be out and about tomorrow looking for Hallowe'en things to go bump in the night with — so long as they're not his relatives

Tomorrow could be a pretty busy night for Sway Tower in Hampshire. This gawky New Forest landmark was designed in 1879 by Sir Christopher Wren, but unless I had told you that, you probably would not have guessed because (a) it is a concrete column 218ft high, and thus somewhat different from the premises Wren normally cobbled, and (b) he had been dead for a century and a half.

Indeed, it is possible that (a) is explained by (b), since a man of 247 may well have either changed the ideas of his youth or lost his touch altogether, and Sway Tower offers clear evidence of both possibilities: even though Judge Thomas Turton Peterson, who commissioned Wren, was very happy with the way it turned out. We know this, because despite the fact that he is as dead as Wren, now, he still hangs around the place.

Hallowe'en might thus be a good time to visit Sway, when it is on the cards that Peterson will invite a few friends in, many of whom will come up through the basement, since the tower stands on an Iron Age burial mound. That is why tomorrow night could be pretty busy.

If, by the way, you are wondering how Peterson got Wren to design the tower for him, the answer is that Peterson went to a local medium with his problem, and the medium put him in touch with Wren, and Wren took the job. He not only, through the medium, drew up the plans, he also supervised the construction. Whether, mind, he will be there tomorrow night, I cannot with confidence say, since St Paul's is also rumoured to be a favourite haunt of his; so *si monumentum requiris, circumspice*, and, who knows, you may catch sight of the old boy too, ambling about and wondering now whether it would not have looked better in concrete.

But if Wren does not show up at Sway, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle very well might, given that he was not only a friend of Peterson, but is also buried just a mile or two away, on the furthest edge of Minstead churchyard. He was dumped on the furthest edge because the congregation hated the idea of a believer in spiritualism being interred near the church; which, since that church was sanctified in the name of history's most famous revenant, may strike you as somewhat inconsistent.

I have to say that, for me, a ghost does not have to be holy before I am prepared to believe in it. You should not, however, jump to any conclusions about what it is that I believe it to be: I have experienced ghosts in one way and another for most of my life, but I have never taken these assorted manifestations as proof of the soul's immortality. Quite why those who have long since turned to dust should continue to pop up now and then, and here and there, I do not know, and under no circumstances would I permit the huge body of iffy quasi-scientific spiritualist scholarship to attempt to explain it to me; I am quite content to live with present inexplicability, and should some future boffin come up with watertight proof that ghosts are simply a hitherto unidentified physical phenomenon, I shall be quite content to take that on board, too.

What I am not content with is the quality of the ghosts I have met. I kicked off with Sway Tower just now only because it is the place I most recently visited, rather than sensibly waiting for Hallowe'en, in the hope of making contact with Peterson, Wren, or Conan Doyle. I would even have settled for Dame Alicia Lisle, who can often be seen not far from Sway, in a coach pulled by four headless horses which takes her on nocturnal excursions from Ellingham churchyard, where she was buried in 1685, having herself been beheaded at the Bloody Assizes for sheltering a brace of Monmouth rebels. I should not have minded meeting her at all; there would have been much to chat of, especially if Judge Jeffreys, as he often does, had come out from behind a tree. But nobody showed.



Popping back: Judge Thomas Turton Peterson

The New Forest, mind, is only one of a number of haunts I have haunted in the hope of making that metaphor flesh, or at least ectoplasm. I have done St John's College, Oxford, with every intention of waiting until Archbishop Laud had finished rolling his head across the library floor (his regular jape) so that I could have a word, and it goes without saying that I have done my own college, Wadham, where Wren was an undergraduate, and where — when he is not in Sway, St Paul's, or Hampton Court Palace (in which he often turns up on his deathday, February 26, and where I have also attempted to bump into him) — he has been seen musing in the Chapel Quad, but he did not materialise at any time during my four years. Clearly, Wren is avoiding me, but why? Is it because I have never offered him a commission? Should I invite him to tender for a concrete outhouse?

I am not being half as frivolous as might appear. For 40 years, I have engaged in spiritualism (with results which are simultaneously interesting and dull), ever since my parents, who were not mad either, introduced me to it. Not only were we none of us barmy, we were none of us corrupt, as countless mediums have of course been, although God knows why, as most of them only charged five bob a seance, and some of the antics they got up to with pulleys and lights and drapes must have cost a packet, never mind manifestations in Tudor dress in the days when you could not get a handkerchief without clothing coupons.

My family, however, was straight: uncles, aunts, cousins, in-laws would turn up for meetings with no axes to grind, no profits to turn, no hoaxes to practise; with no ambitions, in short, for any gain beyond making contact with the dear departed. And make contact we did, by the drove, and by Ouija, trumpet, planchette, table, Morse key, and anything else which the ghosts could manage articulately to deploy.

There were but two snags to these otherwise successful encounters: (1) the ghosts were invariably those of friends and relatives (including, and impressively for those wishing to put it all down to telepathy or some such, a few none of us had ever heard of, which usually sorted itself out after a bit of "Binnie? Who the hell's Binnie?" "Hang on, wasn't your Uncle Dick's second wife called Binnie?" "No, you're thinking of his dog, Minnie. I've got an idea Binnie was your cousin Gus's mother") and (2) the friends and relatives were even more boring than they had been when they were alive.

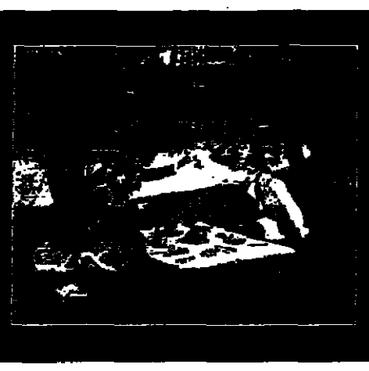
This was a great disappointment: I would often attempt to find out what conditions were like where they were, did they smoke, were there dogs, did everyone speak English, and so on, but all any ghost would ever reply was that it was happy. It would then clear off to make way for another one, who would identify itself and tell us it was happy, too.

While this always seemed to satisfy the rest of the family, I have to say I never gave a damn whether they were happy or not, I wanted to know if they had met Genghis Khan or Wally Hammond, and could they bring them next time, but as soon as you put that to them, they clammed up and another happy old bore came through. My mother's explanation for this was quite simple: why on earth would a big cheese like Genghis Khan want to talk to the likes of us?

Which was why, when I grew older, I took up ghost-hunting. Since they seemed to exist, and since there was a vast tally of sightings of the major dead by sane and even scientifically distinguished people, it struck me that there should be an outside chance of matching my psychic nous with my social aspirations. It has not worked out. I have taken my techniques and my goodwill (leave us not call it faith) to umpteen well-documented supernatural sites. I have set up seances there with other honest practitioners, and all we have ever got is more happy bloody relatives.

Nevertheless, I shall not give up. Afterlife goes on, and tomorrow night, since it is the most propitious one of the year, I shall be at the Thameside site to which Charles I has been returning, on and off, for three centuries. Whatever happens or does not, it makes a lot more sense than sitting at home waiting for a midget in a Woolworth's mask to bang on the door and offer me the choice of either coughing up a quid or having the car resprayed.

A return to Victorian values?



SOTHEBY'S
FOUNDED 1744

Pampered back to life

Elizabeth Dashwood escapes the office for a de-stressing as opposed to distressing family weekend in Wiltshire



Inspiration for childish mischief, an illustration from Beatrix Potter's *The Tale of Tom Kitten*

The next time I want my car washed I shall drive to Lucknam Park country house hotel, near Bath, at which cars can be valeted. Among other activities. The staff feed guests one-star Michelin food, beautify and massage them, encourage them to swim in a large, indoor, heated pool or float in a hot tub, and make them feel completely at home . . .

Not that my home includes a wine waiter tripping across the lawn to stand at the edge of the croquet lawn, offering a drink and suggesting a nice Pomerol for supper. Nor that my home includes a croquet lawn. Or a magnificent walled garden. Or a nearby stables. Or a "ghost" to turn down beds and clear up after us.

The best trained staff do have a curious, other-worldly quality: they run, Jeeves-like, seemingly on castors, unruffled by tumbling forks, tipsy guests and turbulent children. They notice before you do that a splash more gravy might be in order, or a bathing towel is not near enough to hand when you climb out of the pool. They notice before you do that you are about to lose your way from the dining-room to the drawing-room. They allow the over-taxed over-achiever to drift effortlessly, bereft of decision-making, towards a loosening of tired shoulder muscles and fixed smiles.

Ralaxation is an aim at Lucknam Park and so a chummy atmosphere is encouraged, although never forced. In the swimming pool a little boy, whose extended family had gathered at Lucknam to celebrate his second birthday (I rudely kept trying to work out how much this celebration was costing), was introduced to my two-year-old daughter, Miranda, and marriage was discussed. In the walled garden guests compared early autumn flower scents, and in the sunny drawing-room before dinner, lazily challenged each other to games of tennis without leaving their large, comfy chairs.



Lucknam Park in festive array

The surrounding Wiltshire countryside helps, as do the peaceful grounds. The mellow stone house comes into view at the end of a mile-long drive, lined with two ranks of beech trees. Thus there is time to dwell on the prettiness of the building, time to feel that a horse and six would be more appropriate than a ratty Citroën.

It was late when I arrived with spouse and two children — three-year-old Rose and Miranda. The sleeping infants were whisked silently through the entrance hall into a suite with a vast four-poster and their beds. The four-poster had an uncanny resemblance to the one pictured in Beatrix Potter's *Tom Kitten*, on the top canopy of which Tom, already in disgrace, is frolicking. Inspired, my (now wakeful) daughters tried something similar and managed to catapult themselves on to a radiator. Luckily, they have tough skulls.

The restaurant had been making a siren call to my stomach since setting off from London, but I reckoned we were too late even for sandwiches. "No, no; no bother at all. Choose from the menu and it will be brought to your room," we were told. And so the feast began: melt-in-the-mouth, politically incorrect foie gras, followed by partridge, and a treasure chest made of chocolate and hazelnuts — all disgracefully rich and quite delicious.

At about 7.30 on Saturday morning we were woken by scrabbling noises around the base of the four-poster, followed by squeaky demands for breakfast. One telephone call later the exquisitely mannered ghosts arrived, manoeuvring tray after tray on to the freshly laid dining-table.

Weighed down with the sin of greed, and two huge meals, I made my way to the beauty parlour. There is nothing like a hairdresser or beauty therapist for massaging away guilt and problems. This is clearly what the bride-to-be and her friend in the next cubicle felt, and for the next hour and a half while I was pummelled, I had a running commentary on the groom, the best man, the bride's *risqué* past, the groom's family's peccadilloes.

I regret to say that a more formal arrangement has now been made whereby such ill-mannered eavesdropping is no longer possible: the beauty area has been given a whole house to itself. Guests can give the de-stressing, as opposed to distressing, programme a whirl for £250, which includes two nights' accommodation, breakfast, dinner, and a Paris Method full body massage and mini facial.

● *Elizabeth Dashwood was a guest of Lucknam Park, Colerne, Wiltshire SN14 8AZ (0225 742777).*

Princely welcome in a snowstorm

Klosters is one of the oldest, most elegant European ski resorts and one of the least spoilt

ANTONIO RIBEIRO



Klosters exhibits no obvious chic, no hint of glamour

THE huge, open, sunny snowfields of the Parsenn region of Switzerland were the earliest haunts of Europe's Alpine skiers. Here the first funicular dedicated to skiing was built, and the first ever drag lift installed.

Klosters is for intermediate skiers looking for long empty runs over the fields and into the woods, and for beginners for whom elegant accommodation is paramount. It was Prince Charles who alerted expert skiers to the deep-snow, off-piste potential of Klosters, when he took official responsibility for a fatal avalanche on the notorious "Wang" off-piste itinerary in 1988.

The prince remains a popular favourite with longtime residents in the resort, who appreciate his continued custom after the accident. Klosters is that rarity among today's aggressively marketed ski circuses. The resort is small enough, the clientele loyal enough, for every new customer to be welcomed like the lifelong guest he is expected to become.

I arrived in Klosters on the cog railway of the Rhätische Bahn, a private line with the endearingly un-Swiss trait of never once being on time. Fat, heavy flakes were descending like manna from heaven. Nothing beats arriving in a ski resort during a snowstorm.

However, the local tourist authorities could do something to warn hapless travellers such as myself that Klosters is really two separate train stops. I got off at the first sign of Klosters. "Klosters Dorf", "Klosters Platz", which is the resort, is another 1,000 metres up the hill.

If you hate the soulless concrete bunker resorts of France, you will love Klosters. It is old world, quiet and quaint without being twee. Despite its reputation for catering to an élite, Klosters exhibits no sign of chic, no hint of glamour. "I guess we're about 20 years behind the times," says Martin Accola, the tourist director, as if it were something to be ashamed of.

WITH fewer than 10,000 beds, Klosters retains a village atmosphere. Traditionally, clients stay in hotels, most of which rate four or five stars. When asked why Klosters does not have the kind of chalet parties so typical of Verbier and Val d'Isère, Herr Accola says: "We were really lucky the package companies never came here."

I stayed in the first hotel built in Klosters, the Vereina. Since 1879 there have been a few revisions, but the standard of service and the wide hallways date back to an earlier age.

In the hushed ambience of the dining-room, I was slightly unnerved to see that boys of six and seven were dressed in jackets and ties. After dinner, however, even the grandfathers in their dinner jackets retired to the Vereina's *pièce de résistance*, a room full of vintage pinball machines.

The next morning after breakfast, I left the hotel and walked into a blizzard. Snow was falling so heavily that visibility was nil. I was surprised to find the Gotschnagrat cable car running. It is a virtue of the open snowfields shared by Klosters and Davos that skiing is still possible in heavy snow conditions.

In resorts characterised by steep rock faces and *couloirs* susceptible to avalanche, cable cars to the upper slopes are routinely closed when visibility is poor. Up on the Parsenn, few skiers were out. The snow was deep, but heavy and wet. It was one of those days where the best technique is "point 'em and pray".

> 'We were really lucky the package companies never came'

I ran into a group of English skiers, accompanied by their mountain guide. They graciously steered me down on an incredible itinerary through the woods, which ended hours later in a tiny hamlet right on the Rhätische Bahn tracks. This is the kind of get-away-from-the-pack skiing almost impossible to find on the "hidden highway" off-piste itineraries of Verbier, St Anton and Val d'Isère.

Klosters is not immune to lift queues, although the Gotschnagrat cable car has ample capacity on most weekdays. On Sundays, the best bet is to hop on the train and run down to Davos to ski the outlying Jakobshorn or Rinerhorn sectors, each self-contained family ski areas in their own right. From Klosters Dorf, down the line from Klosters in the opposite direction from Davos, weekend skiers will find the Madrisa sector worth exploring too.

Davos has none of the charm of Klosters. But together on the same "Rega" lift pass, the two resorts offer awesome skiing terrain. The Parsenn, Strela and Weissfluhjoch snowfields present together as much opportunity for off-piste foraging as anywhere in the Trois Vallées or the Espace Killy in France.

Long itineraries down to valley hamlets, such as the 12km run from the Weissfluhgipfel to Küblis, are typical of the Klosters-Davos region. Experts will have to judge for themselves whether the infamous "Wang" run is really as difficult as is made out.

I was left pondering the Swiss sense of irony after my final conversation with Herr Accola. I was congratulating him on avoiding the twin plagues of low-budget package tourism and locust-like ski bums when he inquired: "What's a ski bum?"

When I described the hordes who "graze" off leftovers on the restaurant terraces of Verbier and St Anton, and who trash every inch of fresh white powder snow the instant it hits the ground in Val d'Isère and Chamonix, Herr Accola obviously still did not understand. "Well," he offered tentatively, "we do get the Swedish royal family."

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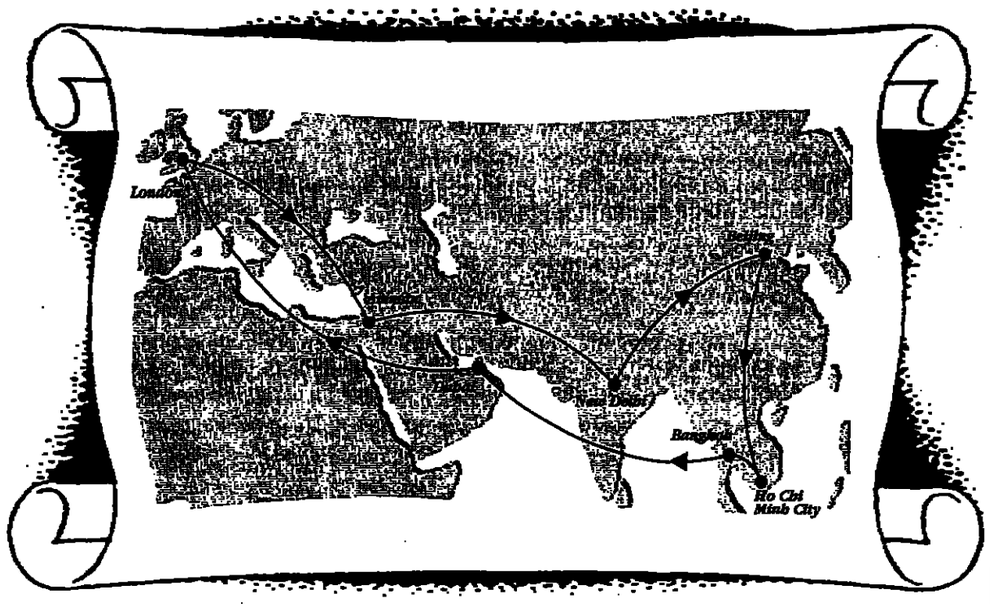
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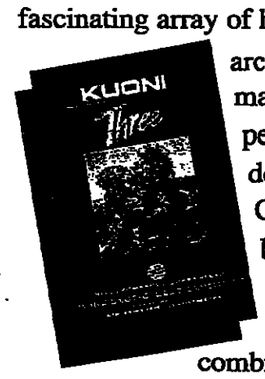
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Louisa Young follows an extraordinary countryman who has turned his passion for local wildlife into a thriving business

One man and his video camera









YORKSHIRE TELEVISION

Johnny Kingdom gets his beloved North Devon woodland in focus, looking for barn owl, red deer and badger among others; some shots take him four days

Johnny Kingdom knows the names of the birds, and their songs, and their habits. He knows where the badgers' sets are, how to tickle a trout and how to make the little kissing noise that makes a foxcub think you're a rabbit. And he knows how to sneak up on a deer.

None of this is particularly unusual in a North Devon countryman, but Mr Kingdom has taken his knowledge a step further. He's like a big child — "Look at this! Look what I found!" He wants people to see and join in, but stalking beasts is not really a social activity. So he's found a way to make it one.

"My day job is, I dig the graves. So did my father, and my grandfather, and my boy's learning it now because I'm 54. I was a lumberjack but I had an accident and I couldn't do it any more. I spent a lot of time up on the moor, walking, and then one of my mates lent me his video camera and I took it up there and just started to film what I saw." He filmed first for his own pleasure, then for showings in the village hall, and now for the thousands of people who send for his North Devon wildlife videos.

"I always liked the animals and the countryside," he says, and it shows. His films are a little wobbly, but all the more appealing and immediate for that. "Sorry about the dirty spots on the screen, it's raining," he murmurs on the soundtrack. Hearing the whirr of the camera, the songs of the birds, the creek of Mr Kingdom's boots, you can feel that you are there. And after all this is England, not the Serengeti.

Over a shot of some foliage, Mr Kingdom's hushed voice explains what most of us would have missed if we'd walked past it: the little wobbly things in the shadow of the leaves are young blackcaps in their nest, gaping for food. And here comes the father bird to feed them, poking a dragonfly down a throat. And the mother. "You mustn't go too close to the nest," he says. "If you go too close she'll forsake them." The camera closes in: the chicks look like tiny dinosaurs, bald and pinky green.

He films badgers scuttling around after the cake that he has left for them — his wife, Julie, makes it from peanuts, honey and Sugar Puffs. And stoats carrying their young in their mouths. Herons mating, a barn owl, a furious buzzard, a fox cub trotting through the stubble, seven stags, their antlers gleaming in the dawn. Neighbours ring to report sightings, and Mr Kingdom never goes anywhere without his camera.

The key is patience. "You have to get out of your car," he says with gentle irony. He knows where the animals will be, sets up the camera, and waits. Some shots take him four days. Or he goes out at dawn and in the evening with the camera on his shoulder. He crawls on his belly and lurks behind bushes. He wades through bogs. He climbs trees. He stays downwind. Taking a tip, perhaps, from the greenfinches he found nesting in an old Rayburn, he has built himself a hide in a disused electricity pylon. Murmuring into his camera's microphone as the animals emerge he says: "I'm having a terrible job keeping the camera steady here . . . ah, but now what do you want prettier than that?"

At this time of the year the best show is the red deer. Among the bracken and damp and fantastic yellow fungus of the autumn forest Mr Kingdom points out their slots (footprints): the difference between the hind's (pointy) and the stag's (splayed). He estimates the size of the animal and how long since it was there. He shows their racks (paths) up banks and through hedges — and the damaged bark on a big gorse bush that a stag has attacked. He shows their wallows — wide pools where they lay their scent during the rutting season. The water is cloudy: they've been here this morning, bathing and stroking the water with their antlers. Mr Kingdom has it on film: the deer looking mythical in the mist.

We run into a gamekeeper, and they gossip about the whereabouts of a particular big stag. "All his rights, six and eight atop? That's the one," they say. They recognise stags by their antlers: "all his rights" means the three lower points on each antler, called the brow, bay and tray. Six and eight atop refers to the number of points above the rights: six on one side, eight on the other. The gamekeeper is afraid it might have been had by poachers — even a farmed stag's head can make £1,000 — but Mr Kingdom saw it again the next day.

They can tell an Exmoor stag from a lowland stag by the breadth and strength of its antlers: a stag from down near Tiverton will have broader, bigger antlers because the feeding is better down there. Each spring a stag loses his antlers, and during the summer grows bigger ones, green and velvety and rubbery to start with, hardening up as the year draws on.

The stags can be dangerous during the rutting season, and Mr Kingdom had to grab his camera and shin up a tree a couple of times. Cities, though, are another thing. "We went to London once. We were in what they call the rush hour, we didn't know what it was. Flippin' frightened us half to death."

● *JFK Videos, Moorlands, 3 Glebeland Villas, Bishop's Nympton, North Devon EX36 4PT (0769 550367). A* First Tuesday *documentary,* Johnny Kingdom and the Secret of Happiness, *goes out on November 2 at 10.40pm (ITV all areas).*

Paul Heiney's column now appears on the back page of Weekend

On the trail of the Lizard

OUR second extract from the Countryside Commission's series of guides for walkers takes us on an 11-mile walk through Cornish coastal scenery from the Lizard to Coverack. Even in the height of summer you will see remarkably few signs of tourism as you walk the coast path. Away from the popular places you will meet few of the millions of visitors that Cornwall absorbs each season — simply the best of the landscapes and seascapes, and a proud and fascinating history written into the countryside.
The days when intrepid walkers of the coast path carried sharp implements to cut a way through gorse, bracken, blackthorn and brambles have gone. The Countryside Commission awards grants to the county council and the National Trust to maintain the path.

John Macadam takes a walk in Cornwall, where the coast path and the rock are serpentine



The route on this walk is easy as far as Cadgwith, but from there to Coverack there are a few tiring climbs and steep, slippery slabs of rock to cross. This really is the geological walk *par excellence.*

The route starts above the old lifeboat station in Polpeor Cove, from the car-park, which contains cafés and shops selling the greyish-green serpentine mineral, though the serious geologist will want to see the varieties *in situ* and will need a geological guide.

On the coast path you pass south of the most southerly house to **Bass Point (1)**. The slopes here have a mass of Hottentot fig, which is regarded as an unwelcome alien because the mass of stems chokes the native flora.

On top of Bass Point stands not only a coastguard lookout but also the now disused Lloyd's signal station, from where incoming ships were given visual orders. In 1961, the lifeboat was moved from Polpeor Cove to the more sheltered Kilcobben Cove.

Church Cove (2) not only has an old capstan house but also a fish palace converted into a house.

The serpentine quarries to the north of Church Cove provided stone for the runways of Culdrose airfield, and crushed serpentine has also been used for firebricks.

Farther on, the rock underfoot is schist, a black sparkling material with fine white layers, which has been quarried above **Chough's Ogo (3)**, leaving a very comfortable resting place. But sadly there have been no choughs (a local type of crow) to watch here for the past 150 years.

A little farther on, a wooden seat has been provided so that you can sit and look down into Hugga Driggee, more commonly known as the Devil's Frying Pan, a funnel-shaped depression with a narrow arch at the bottom.

The route winds through a private garden, then passes on the seaward side of the cottages. Cadgwith is many people's idea of a proper Cornish fishing village. It lost its lifeboat when the new lifeboat station was built at Kilcobben. On the north side of Cadgwith Cove the small hut with a chimney was a coastguard lookout.

The slopes above Kildown Cove are the site of an experiment by the National Trust and a local farmer to stop the normal reversion of fenced-off coastal land to scrub. A strip of coast has been boxed off by fences, gates built for walkers to open and close, the scrub cleared and stock allowed to graze. It is hoped that grassland rich in wildflowers will regenerate.

Poltesco is the site of an old serpentine works, from where the pulpit in Landewednack Church came. The serpentine factory took over the site from a pilchard seine — a style of fishing where a net is held vertically in the water and the ends then drawn together. The rounded building was a capstan house for hauling in boats and nets.

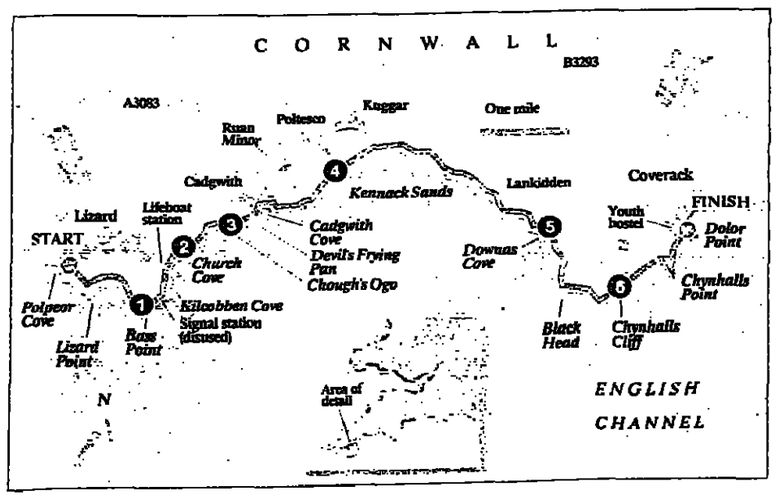
Kennack Sands (4) is a popular beach with caravan sites near by as well as beach cafés, a car-park and public conveniences.

On the east side of the sands the path, after the concrete bridge, follows a lane seaward of the trees. It goes through an area of butcher's broom growing on the alkaline soil and goes on to Lankidden, with its tiny sandy beach and a track to the road, which could be useful to anyone who wished to miss the steep climb and descent at **Downas Cove (5)**.

On a clear day it is obvious why a coastguard lookout was placed at Black Head, as walkers from the Lizard can see Falmouth, the Dodman and more headlands beyond.

Above **Chynhalls Cliff (6)** there is a pig yard, which drains across the path. The path then turns inland and returns towards the coast at the Chynhalls Hotel, with a spur running out to the "fort" at Chynhalls Point.

The main coast path goes down seaward of the Wesleyan chapel and then hugs the coast round Dolor Point and the Paris Hotel (named after a local wreck, not the capital of France). It goes past the old lifeboat station of the small harbour at Coverack. The youth hostel here runs a sail-boarding school and there are shops, a sandy beach at low water and a bus service.



● *Edited extract by Frank Jeffery from* South West Coast Path *by John Macadam, published by Aurum Press in association with the Countryside Commission/Ordnance Survey, price £8.99. It is one of the* National Trail Guide *series, which includes Ordnance Survey maps.*

THE RUSSIAN FAR EAST

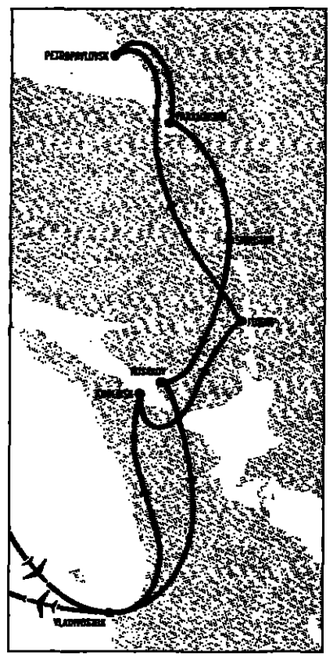
A VOYAGE TO THE LANDS OF ICE AND FIRE ABOARD THE MS CALEDONIAN STAR
14 July-2 August 1994

Opportunities for the genuine traveller have widened dramatically in the last couple of years. Nowhere is this more true than in the remote and previously 'closed' areas of the Russian Far East.

The Kamchatka Peninsula and the stepping stone islands of the Kurils which form a chain from Kamchatka to Japan have been off-limits to westerners for decades. Our appetites were whetted by the recent showing of the excellent *BBC wildlife* series, 'Realms of the Russian Bear' which visited Kamchatka, so aptly described as a land of ice and fire.

The whole area is of great interest to birdwatchers, naturalists and travellers who *like to experience new areas which are* unaccustomed to tourists. The Kuril Islanders are particularly noted for their warm hospitality and there will be opportunities to meet the locals and learn about their demanding lifestyles.



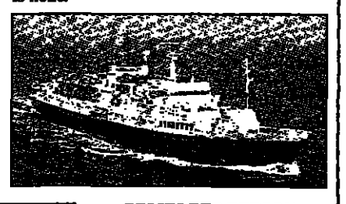


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THE ITINERARY

DAY 1 London-Moscow Fly London to Moscow and stay overnight.

DAY 2 Moscow Morning city tour including a visit to the Kremlin. Afternoon at leisure. Evening special charter flight to Vladivostok.

DAY 3 Vladivostok Prior to joining the MS Caledonian Star there will be a tour of the city. Sail in the evening.

DAY 4 At sea Talks by our guest speakers.

DAY 5 Kholmsk Afternoon visit to Kholmsk, *our first call on Sakhalin* Island. Situated on the West Coast this booming city owes it's growth to the links with the Great Siberian Railway and it's enthusiastic adoption of Perestroyka. See Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk and the regional ethnographic Museum.

DAY 6 At sea

DAY 7 Iturup Go ashore by Zodiac to a greeting from the Mayor and a quayside concert. Explore the small town of Kurilisk including the salmon hatchery and surprisingly enough an art school. Island drive across the dramatic scenery to the White Cliffs.

DAYS 8 & 9 At sea Cruising in the Kurils.

DAY 10 Petropavlovsk Arrive at the capital of the Kamchatka Peninsula in the morning. Our entry into Avachinsky will be unforgettable. This is the world's largest deep sea harbour, curving some 15 miles across with a dramatic mountain backdrop. Visit the Volcanology Institute and the local museum.

DAY 11 Petropavlovsk A visit will be arranged into the interior today to see the hot springs of Paratunka and also a small settlement at Maiki. Those with a head for heights might like to take an optional excursion by helicopter to the Valley of the Geysers. This is a unique area of fauna, flora and geology. Only a few visitors are allowed to see this extraordinary phenomenon consisting of multiple tiers of geysers along the slopes of a valley.

DAY 12 Paramushir (Kuril Islands) Calling at Severo Kurilisk we will explore this rugged volcanic island which is just off the Kamchatka Peninsula. The area will be teaming with seabirds and we hope to spot some rarely seen species.

DAY 13 At sea Cruising in the Kurils.

DAY 14 Simushir (Kuril Islands) As we sail down the Pacific Ring of Fire, the islands increasingly become more Japanese in feel and scenery. Stopping at Kitoboynyy on Simushir which is the middle of the group we shall explore the area by Zodiac, seeing something of the important fishing industry, enjoying nature walks in the unique countryside and setting foot where only a handful of westerners have landed before.

DAY 15 At sea

DAY 16 Kosakov (Sakhalin Island) Returning to Sakhalin, an island first discovered by the Dutch in 1643 and administered by successive Russian, Japanese and now again Russian governments, we shall call at Korsakov in the south eastern corner. After a visit to this enterprising town we shall drive into the countryside and see some of the 16,000 lakes, 60,000 rivers brimming with salmon and the interesting flora which includes such *rarities as burdocks which grow to* 10 feet.

DAYS 17 & 18 At sea

DAY 19 Vladivostok-Moscow Disembark in the morning for charter flight to Moscow. Arrive Moscow in the evening and stay overnight.

DAY 20 Moscow-London Late afternoon flight from Moscow to London (Heathrow).

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RUSTICITY
The Peasant
240 St John Street, London EC1 (071-336 7726)
Poised between Angel and the City, The Peasant opens tomorrow: a converted Victorian gin palace where Michael Kittos and Craig Schorn (ex-Frith's and Joe Allen's), guided by consultant chef Carla Tomasi, promise rustic food such as cassoulets, risottos and stews "with a cosmopolitan twist". Real ales as well as wines, and £15 to £18 a head should cover full meals. Open Monday to Friday, noon-11pm.

BOHEMIAN BRUM
Café des Artistes
Lakeside, The Custard Factory, Digbeth, Birmingham (021-608 7878)
Anne Galloway, designer-turned-arts administrator-turned-cook, reckons she has to be "ridiculously cheap" catering to artists and media folk in Birmingham's new Arts and Media Centre, the former Birds Custard Factory. The still-evolving menu includes soups, pasta dishes and pâtisseries, and £10 should cover it. Open 9am-10pm (11pm Saturday), but not yet on Sundays.

SOUTHERN BALTI
Haweli
7 White Hart Lane, Barnes, London SW13 (081-876 4441)
The group of ten Haweli restaurants (other branches are in Sutton, New Malden, West Byfleet, Belmont, Wellington, Epsom, Surbiton and Twickenham) has commissioned Pat Chapman of the Curry Club and *Balti Curry Cook Book* to introduce a balti (Himalayan bucket stir-fry) range to new menus being launched this week. "We aim to de-Brummify the balti" declares owner Manju Zaman. £20 a head or so. Open noon-2.30pm and 6pm-midnight, seven days a week.

ROBIN YOUNG

Best of British produce

Henrietta Green travelled 15,000 miles around Britain to find the best food the country can offer. Jo Fairley gets a taste

For five months last year, food writer, author and broadcaster Henrietta Green forswore square meals in favour of a diet of fudge, Cornish pasties, black pudding, ice-cream and butter — eaten straight from the packet.

Ms Green has long crusaded to improve awareness of British regional foods through her broadcasts for *Farming Week* and *The Food Programme*, and via cookery books — including *New Country Kitchen*, which this year scooped America's top cookbook prize, the Julia Child Award. So last year she embarked on an epic, 15,000-mile quest to uncover Britain's gourmet secrets. Now the fruits of her labours have been published as *Henrietta Green's Food Lover's Guide to Britain*, saving the rest of us from having to notch up thousands of high-cholesterol miles to locate the best farm shops, the finest fish smokeries and delicatessens in these islands.

She insists that she is not so much a good cook as "a good shopper". She says: "As Jane Grigson once said, good food is about buying the best produce you can afford and cooking it as simply as possible, to emphasise its inherent flavour, rather than fiddling around for hours transforming it into something complicated."

She has been passionate about food since her first taste of exotic foreign provender at the age of five, when the cook in her family's rented French villa would let her tag along on buying expeditions. Ms Green says: "I've always envied the Europeans, where every town has a market bustling with small producers with their cheeses, their sausages, their bread."

On a trip to the United States ten years ago, she observed how the small farm producers — smoking meat over hickory, producing organic farm vegetables — had transformed the cuisine of America, overturning the notion that to be chic, food had to be foreign. "Those 'food craftspeople' do exist in Britain. You just have to be a detective," she says. Her avowed intention with this guide, however, was to sift the British foods in which we should take national pride from the "sham produce": "ye olde farmhouse" cheeses which are in fact mass-produced, and "home-made" ice-creams, so many of which turned out to be synthetically flavoured that she learnt to recognise who had supplied their coffee or strawberry flavour.

Having previously assembled a definitive guide to British produce for professionals — the award-winning *British Food Finds* — Ms Green's Filofax already bulged with the addresses of fine independent producers. "But since everyone mentioned in this book must be prepared to deal with the public, I visited more than 500 shops, growers and manufacturers."

It was not enough to be told by a friend of a friend that so-and-so made the best farmhouse Cheddar or sold the tastiest bread in Britain. Ms Green herself felt compelled to beat an often muddy path to their door. The results have earned the praise of, among others, Egon Ronay, who wrote her a personal letter of effusive congratulations. "It meant so much," she says, "because I knew he understood better than anyone how exhausting a mission like this is."

For a few small producers, her research has had unexpected spin-offs: plugging them into her network of contacts opens up new commercial possibilities. "If we are to preserve our culinary heritage and all its richness and diversity, then small-scale makers working in the 'traditional' way must be fostered and encouraged," she says.

Ms Green readily admits, however, that at times the loneliness of the long-distance gourmet got to her. She was away from home for as much as five weeks at a time, deviating from her route to follow up every "Farm Shop" sign.

But the trip had its lighter moments. "I remember one ludicrous incident, driving through Melton Mowbray, when I stopped at a traffic light and was aware that passers-by were staring at the dashboard of my Golf, where I had ten pork pies lined up — each with a large bite taken out."

The finest of these, however, made it into her book, now destined to become a must for every itinerant food-lover — the food minister Nicholas Soames says he is going to keep a copy in his glove compartment — and every armchair shopper, which Ms Green is once again content to be. Fortunately, most of the producers she discovered are happy to supply by mail order. "From now on," she says, "I'm going to let my fingers do the walking." And so, she hopes — for the sake of Britain's independent bakers, fudge-makers, pastie-cooks, orchard-owners and herring-smokers — will we.

● **Next week:** *First exclusive extract from* Henrietta Green's Food Lover's Guide to Britain *(BBC Books, £9.99). Plus: the winner of the Logis of Great Britain contest.*

JOHN MANNING



Henrietta Green loaded her car with regional foods — "food craftspeople do exist in Britain. You just have to be a detective"

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A leading golf club is taking an expensive swing towards 'country house' food. Fiona Beckett reports

Courses above par

Golf clubs are not noted for good food. Maybe a decent Sunday roast, but even then the chances of having bullet-hard roast potatoes, soggy cabbage and waterlogged cauliflower in a packet-cheese sauce are depressingly high.

Things could be about to change. The Wentworth club in Surrey, home to the PGA and World Matchplay championships, has just opened a new £10 million clubhouse with a lavishly funded catering operation worthy of a five-star hotel. The project is backed by some big names: the club is owned by the property tycoon Elliott Bernard, and his chief executive is Willy Bauer, a former general manager of the Savoy. Mr Bauer in turn has recruited Ian McAndrew, a former Michelin-starred chef tipped by *The Times* as one of high-flying chefs of the 1990s.

On the face of it, the enterprise could appear a *folie de grandeur*. Golf, you might think, is golf, and what the golfer wants is a decent round, a quick stop at the 19th hole for a pint and a ploughman's and then back to the office.

Not so, according to the Golf Research Group. Of the £531 million earned by Britain's golf clubs in 1991, 23 per cent came from food sales and 19 per cent from drink.

And when you're talking about Wentworth you're not talking about just any old golf course. You're talking about a club on an estate where houses fetch up to £5 million: a catchment area crammed with celebrities from the pages of *Hello!* (this is Fergie territory) and a car-park packed with personalised number plates.

Mr Bernard's and Mr Bauer's dream is to take Wentworth into a golf club mega-league, modelled on the great American country clubs, and serious food is a central part of the strategy. Mr McAndrew, who comes from the British-food-with-attitude school, has been given free rein to do what he needs to satisfy a demanding but largely traditional clientele. On the opening menu are tartlet of smoked haddock, lemon and herb dumplings with bruised onions, pea and ham broth, Dover sole, roast partridge, mixed grill and steamed chocolate sponge.

"When people come off the golf course in winter they want a nice, hot Irish stew, or a steak, kidney and oyster pudding, then they can start all over again," Mr Bauer says.

The move from small fashionable restaurants to mass, albeit upmarket mass, catering cannot have been easy for Mr McAndrew. Used to producing exquisitely stylish food, he suddenly finds himself in charge of a kitchen that still needs to produce burgers and chips for the under-12s, and ploughman's platters for their unreconstructed elders. Mr McAndrew appears not to mind. "I've wanted for a time to get into more basic, robust food. So far as Michelin stars are concerned I've been there, done that," he says.

The burgers have their compensations. To produce them and the rest of his repertoire, Mr McAndrew has been given a kitchen that most chefs would give their right arm for: a spacious, spotlessly clean stretch of stainless steel with a vast bank of "don't you just love being in control" burners that might easily appear in the next British Gas advertising campaign. His wall-to-wall carpeted restaurant has a stunning view, falling away over the 18th hole of the east course to the lake and woodland beyond. Even Raymond Blanc doesn't have a view like that.

To pay for these improvements there has been no pussyfooting. At Mr Bauer's instigation, Wentworth has brought in a charge-card system. Members who already have to stump up £5,000 to get into the club (£2,500 to join, £2,500 for the annual subscription) must also deposit £500 up-front for the catering.

Mr Bauer has no qualms about the system. "Most golf club restaurants are half empty, which makes it difficult to encourage good staff. We wanted a good chef and good service. Now people love it. We have a lot of members who soon spend their credit and put in another £500. It's much the easiest way."

By the end of the year, Mr Bauer will have spent £17 million on the club since he joined Wentworth in 1989. During the same period he has increased the revenue seven times. Catering, which brings in £2 million, is expected to double with the new clubhouse. To put this in perspective, a medium-sized London restaurant would expect to gross £2-£2½ million.

Country clubs are where the profits of the future lie, Mr Bauer says. "In America the clubs are amazingly comfortable, like a luxurious country house. People go there for the whole weekend. It hasn't happened here yet. The British have their places in London and houses in the country. But I can see it going that way."

● *For further information, contact the club at Wentworth Drive, Virginia Water, Surrey GU25 4LS (0344 842201).* Poultry and Game *by Ian McAndrew (Mitchell Beazley, £14.99).*

PETER TRIEVNOR



Ian McAndrew in the new kitchen at Wentworth golf club

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A bit of a squash for Hallowe'en


TONY WHITE

Ralph and Barbara Upton at their home in West Sussex, with hundreds of brightly coloured pumpkins and squashes covering their shed roofs and on bales of straw



Hattie Ellis gets to grips with pumpkins and other seasonal exotica

Supermarket exotic fruit and vegetable sections bring out the gambler in me. Every so often I throw a wild card into my basket alongside all the tried and tested, dead-cert ingredients.

One of my most successful ventures has led me to the world of pumpkins and squashes. These versatile vegetables, long enjoyed in many other countries, are still largely unfamiliar to British cooks.

Pumpkin and squash come from the same family as courgettes and marrows (*Cucurbita*). Squashes can be soft or hard-skinned, and come into season in the summer and the autumn. Pumpkin flesh makes autumnal and winter dishes, and the remaining pumpkin can be transformed into Hallowe'en jack-o'-lanterns.

America has a strong tradition, predating Columbus, of growing and cooking squash and pumpkin. Leaf through American recipe books and you will find them in breads, soups, pies, muffins, preserves and pickles.

The famous American pumpkin pie is served at festivals in the autumn and winter, such as Thanksgiving. There are many different recipes, flavoured with spices such as ginger and cinnamon, sweetened with molasses, honey or sugar and set with cream, eggs or evaporated milk. The fillings also vary in texture. Some are a creamy custard with a little pumpkin, and others are mostly pumpkin. Frozen or tinned pumpkin purée can be used as a short cut (sold in American supermarkets and some British ones).

Britain's best established pumpkin and squash producers are Ralph and Barbara Upton, who grow about 60 varieties in Slindon, West Sussex. It is impossible to miss their flint-covered home as you come into the village. On a dim, autumn day it is as if the sun has come out: hundreds of brightly coloured pumpkins and squashes cover their shed roofs and bales of straw in the yard.

The range of colours is magnificent. It was no mistake that Cinderella got a pumpkin for a carriage. Gold, setting-sun red, orange and green stripes and slate blue are some of the hues. The shapes are equally diverse. Some people hang them on the kitchen wall as decorations or use them as doorstops. The very names of squashes and pumpkin varieties make me curious. Gold nugget, Turk's cap and crookneck sound more like racehorses than vegetables.

This weekend the Uptons have on display rows of pumpkins transformed into grinning, gap-toothed lanterns with eyes wide open or winking, ready for candles to be put inside.

Here are some ideas on how to cook two of the most commonly available types of squash, butternut and gem, and pumpkin. They are all sold in larger stores at this time of year, sitting near the chillies and yams in my local supermarket.

You can steam, boil, bake or fry most types. I prefer baking, as it slightly concentrates the flavour. Steaming is quick; boiling makes them a touch too watery; and frying is good for thin slices of the more tender species — coat them in egg and flour first.

A butternut squash looks like a huge pear with pale apricot skin, swelling out around the seed cavity at the bottom. Simply cut one in half, scoop out the seeds and fibres, put some butter and seasonings in the cavity, wrap it in foil and bake in a moderate oven until tender. One squash feeds two people as a filling side vegetable.

This recipe uses sliced butternut squash to make a warming, colourful gratin.

Butternut squash, olive and Emmenthal gratin

(serves 6)

2 butternut squashes
30 black olives
6oz/170g Emmenthal, sliced
sage leaves or chives, chopped
½ pt/290ml milk
¼ pt/150ml double cream (optional)
1oz/30g Emmenthal, grated
1oz/30g butter

Peel the squashes and slice thinly, starting at the thin end. When you get to the seed cavity, slice the rest of the vegetable in half, scoop out the seeds and fibres and continue to slice the flesh to form crescents.

Smear a baking dish with some butter. Put a layer of round squash slices on the bottom. Cover with half the cheese slices, half the olives and half the herbs. Season with black pepper and a little salt. Repeat the process. Finish by arranging the squash crescents on top. Mix the cream and milk and pour on to the gratin. Scatter with grated cheese and dot with butter.

Bake for an hour at 170C/325F, gas mark 3.

Ham goes very well with this dish. Either cut it into strips and bake inside the gratin or serve slices of cold ham alongside it.

The dark green gem squash is easy to handle because it is so small: roughly the size and shape of a tennis ball. Cut the top off and scoop out the seeds and fibres to make an excellent little case for stuffings, such as mozzarella, basil leaves and chopped roasted red peppers; crumbled cooked bacon, butter and maple syrup; and whole cherry tomatoes, chopped spring onions and cheddar.

Bake the stuffed squashes in a *bain-marie* for about 20 minutes at 190C/375F, gas mark 5.

Simply baked with a knob of butter and some brown sugar or maple syrup inside, gems make an unusual accompaniment to ham or chicken.

This is a more complicated recipe which works as a first course for a smart dinner or as a lunch dish, served with salad and some pasta.

Gem squash with anchovy and basil soufflé

(serves 4)

8 gem squashes
½oz/15g butter
½oz/15g flour
¼ pt/150ml milk
2 anchovies, chopped
basil leaves, torn up roughly
2 eggs, separated

Cut the top off the squashes, remove the seeds and fibres. Bake for 15-20 minutes at 190C/375F, gas mark 5, in a *bain-marie*.

Melt the butter, add the flour. Cook for a minute, stirring. Take off the heat and stir in the milk gradually. Put back on the heat and cook, stirring, until thick. Add the anchovies, which soon melt into the mixture. Take off the heat. Add the basil leaves and egg yolks. Season well. Beat the whites until they form peaks and fold into the mixture. Put a couple of spoonfuls into the cooked gem cases and bake at 190C/375F/gas mark 5 for ten minutes, still in the *bain-marie*.

Bright orange pumpkin flesh looks good, works well in savoury or sweet dishes and has a refreshing consistency. You can keep an uncut pumpkin until Christmas.

Pumpkin and squash seeds are good to nibble. Dry them out in the oven and sprinkle with salt, or toast the dried seeds quickly in a pan with some salt and spices.

Pumpkin flesh has a subtle sweetness. It is not a powerful flavour so I either leave it very plain, by roasting chunks next to a joint of roast beef, for example, or use it as a backdrop for stronger flavours.

This speedy and attractive pumpkin soup is made with a strong Japanese ingredient, miso. Miso is a salty paste made from soya beans fermented with various grains. It varies from the light-coloured and sweet to the dark and intensely savoury. I tend to use a spoonful each of light and dark miso in this soup, but you could use just one type. It keeps well in the fridge and a little ads flavour to stews and soups.

Pumpkin and miso soup

(serves 4)

½ onion, chopped
cooking oil
1lb/450g peeled pumpkin, cut into 1cm dice
2pt/1.1 litre water
2tbsp miso
2 spring onions, finely sliced

Soften the onion in a little oil. Add the pumpkin and water. Bring to the boil, cover and simmer for about five minutes or until the pumpkin is tender.

Mix the miso with a little of the cooking liquid to loosen the paste. Add to the pot. Bring almost to the boil. Put in bowls and scatter with sliced spring onion.

One pound of peeled pumpkin is produced by roughly half of a 4lb pumpkin. Do not season the soup as the miso is very salty.

Here is a pudding which displays pumpkin's colour by layering it with white Greek yoghurt and crumbled macaroons.

Pumpkin, ginger and macaroon layered pudding

(serves 6)

1¼ lb/560g seeded pumpkin flesh
2 bulbs of stem ginger, chopped
2tbs stem ginger syrup
1½ tbsp Grand Marnier (optional)
approx 1tbsp maple syrup or sugar
1lb/450g Greek yoghurt
4oz/110g macaroon biscuits

Cut the pumpkin into 1in pieces. Steam until soft. Leave to cool and then peel. Mash or process to a purée. Add the ginger, ginger syrup and, if you like, Grand Marnier. Add maple syrup or sugar to taste.

Put a layer of pumpkin in the bottom of six small glasses, such as wine or whisky glasses, or in a single glass bowl. Put on a layer of greek yoghurt and then some roughly crumbled macaroon. Repeat the three layers, finishing with the biscuit on top.

Other biscuits, such as gingernuts or digestives, can be used instead of macaroons. Alternative flavourings for the pumpkin are grated orange peel, other liqueurs, and spices such as nutmeg, ground ginger and cinnamon.

DISH OF THE DAY



Chef: The Rev Dr Peter Miln, aged 49.

Born: Walton-on-Thames, the son of a Belgian mother and South African father.

Restaurant/pub: The Wellington, 78 High Street, Uttoxeter, Staffordshire ST14 7JD (0889 562616).

Present: Apart from local pulpits, occasionally preaches at the French Protestant Church in London. A passionate fan of Belgium, his menu is based on family recipes and the work of Gaston Clement, the celebrated Belgian gastronome. "You can't have a true Belgian restaurant without mussels, but I have a problem getting really decent ones. Eel, also, is practically impossible for me to get, so I have to miss out on some great dishes."

Past: Trained in kitchens in London and Brussels. Ran his first restaurant, Le Bistro Belge, in Derby, before going into teaching. Former head of the school of catering at Waltham Forest College, Essex. Opened The Wellington at the beginning of 1993.

Personal: "When people ask what a minister is doing running a pub, I say the church has always provided refreshment for travellers and pilgrims. And don't forget, much of Jesus's teaching was at table; there were plenty of suppers before the last."

Dish: *Filet de limande blankenbergeoise*, £6.50. Made with lemon sole or, better still, Dover sole, sautéed *in butter with a sauce made from glace de viande*, cream and a dollop of spicy Belgian mustard. Main courses from £3.50 to £9.

CLARISSA HAYMAN

Jet-setting into conformity

Are flying winemakers forcing blandness on the market?

This flying winemaker business is getting out of hand. No sooner had Hugh Ryman made an unbeatable £2.99 chardonnay in Moldavia (followed, we hope, by an equally brilliant Moldavian sauvignon and rkatsiteli than he was off to Hungary, before flipping back to base in Bordeaux. Several months later, he is making wine in the southern hemisphere, in South Africa and Chile.

Mr Ryman, the hard-working and no doubt permanently jet-lagged flying winemaker extraordinaire, gets everywhere these days. This winter almost every high-street outlet will carry a full range of his French wines plus a clutch of his bottles from Moldavia, Hungary, South Africa and Chile, some three dozen different wines in total.

Mr Ryman's closest competitor is Jacques Lurton, also trained in Bordeaux, who makes wines for Tesco, among others, in Italy, France, Spain, Argentina, Australia and South Africa. By my calculations, two dozen of these are on sale here this winter.

Britain's wine drinkers will also have the pick this winter of another 16 flying winemakers and their teams' wines. Like Mr Ryman and M Lurton, most of these have either finished their training with a lengthy work-experience stint in Australia, or were trained there to start with.

As the name suggests, flying winemakers provide a high-tech, new-wave, flying wine-doctor service to the world's most remote, underskilled cellars and vineyards, generally just before and during the all-important vintage season, before moving on.

There is nothing new in this squeaky-clean New World expertise moving around the Old World's vineyards and grubby cellars. The *Sunday Times* Wine Club's Australian flying winemaker team was doing just that as early as 1987. But what is new in the 1990s is the sheer volume of wine available in Britain's shops, usually in those vital £2.99, £3.99 and £4.99 price bands, and the huge number of winemakers occupied in the flying wine game.

What separates these flying winemakers and their wines from the old-fashioned, traditional originals they perfect and play around with is their belief in technology first, *terroir* second. *Terroir* is that French notion that soil, aspect, climate and grape variety are essential to the production of good wine. The right technology, so the flying winemakers argue, enables them, with the minimum *terroir* requirements, to turn adequate but not exceptional grapes into good quality everyday wines. To do this they use such new-fangled techniques as night picking by mechanical harvesters, the use of modern, inoculated yeast strains plus cold fermentation, followed by skin contact, lees aging and months maturing in new oak barrels. The results — keenly-priced, fresh, zippy, citrusy whites and rich, smooth, fruity reds — are in many cases far more impressive than the originals.

So what is wrong with flying winemakers and their inexpensive, easy drinking, new-wave wines? A slight but growing tendency to produce neutral, high-tech, squeaky-clean wines that, tasted blind, could come from almost anywhere. I find the much-vaunted Chais Baumière range made by Australia's B.R.L. Hardy in southern France dreary and over-priced at £3.99. The same criticism could be levelled at several of Jacques Lurton's Tesco International Winemaker wines and those of the Domaine Virginie, also from southern France, made by another Australian.

Many flying winemakers also need to get several vintages in one place under their belt before they produce the best the area can do.

Apart from the possible dangers of bland uniformity, flying winemakers have also been criticised for slavish devotion to popular varieties such as the ultra-fashionable chardonnay and cabernet sauvignon followed by the likes of sauvignon blanc, merlot, sémillon and syrah. This bothers me less but it would indeed be sad if characterful, indigenous grape varieties were to die out at the expense of the successful six.

What is needed is a happy balance of the old *terroir* and new-world high-tech strengths, and my hunch is that that is just what will happen during the next decade.

JANE MACQUITTY

BEST BUYS

● **1992 Moldova Chardonnay Hincesti, Hugh Ryman, Moldova:** *Majestic Wine Warehouses, Sainsbury, Oddbins, £2.99*
Best, cheap new-wave chardonnay in the high street: brilliant fresh, appley, pineappley fruit.

● **1992 Chardonnay, Vin de Pays d'Oc, Hugh Ryman, France:** *Majestic £4.99, Sainsbury £4.95*
Fresh, elegant, oaky, nutty fruit makes Hugh Ryman's most aristocratic, high-tech chardonnay a winner.

● **1992 Syrah, Vin de Pays d'Oc, Jacques Lurton, France:** *Tesco £4.99*
The best red in Tesco's International Winemaker range, with a big, rich, spicy scent and an inky, peppery palate.

● **1993 Cape View Cinsaut/Shiraz, Stellenbosch, Kym Milne, South Africa:** *The Victoria Wine Company £3.39*
Latest flying winemaker vintage from master of wine New Zealander Kym Milne is this rich, inky, blackberry and raspberry-style blend.

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Drought conditions in the October deluge

Despite one of the wettest autumns on record, an Essex garden has been designed to flourish in the dry

JULIAN HERBERT



Beth Chatto with drought-resistant bouquet

EAST Anglia, usually the driest part of the country, has had the worst autumn rains for nearly 30 years. So, after driving through floods to see Beth Chatto's latest project near Colchester, Essex, I fully expected her celebrated gardens to be submerged. She greeted me with a huge bunch of flowers she had picked in the early morning sunshine after the rain and, tracking the origin of this bouquet, we went first to look at her new project — a dry gravel garden designed to resemble a parched river bed, but planted with drought-resistant plants.

No hint of the rainstorms was visible: the greens, greys and golds of foliage were offset by crimson sedums, pink schizostylis and banks of winking yellow black-eyed Susans. The rapid drainage of the underlying gravel is the reason that this garden looked so untouched by the torrents.

Mrs Chatto's plan was to make a garden which would be a model for gardeners with drought-prone, quickly draining soils, where water retention is at a minimum even after the addition of compost and manure. She had not bargained on demonstrating its resilience to autumnal squalls.

November gardens can easily slide into dreariness, so it is worth investigating ideas for flowers and foliage which continue up to and through the early frosts.

Mrs Chatto demonstrates how they should also contribute variation in texture: low, dense, umbrella heads of sedums, for example; catmint, with its tiny froth of purple flowerheads melting into the grey-green of the foliage; polygonums with their bright little brush heads, and verbascums, whose towering form adds necessary verticals among the clumps.

Among the most dependable plants for long-term multiple flowerheads are the tender perennial plants we treat as annuals. One of the nicest is the small, bright yellow *Bidens ferulifolia*, which is popular as a container plant and blooms bravely outdoors until the weather gets too cold. The daintiest of the marguerite type of daisies, the argyranthemums, can now be found in pinks, lemons and doubles, and the tiny blush-pink daisies, *Erigeron karvinskianus*, are all well worth the extra effort of raising and taking cuttings, and planting out in late spring.

Plants whose flowering season falls naturally in autumn in Britain bring an inestimable freshness. Nerines, with their curved, waxy, pink petals, bloom late and hold their heads up through the first frosts.

The small-flowered Michaelmas daisies, *Aster ericoides* and *A. pringlei*, are invaluable for the autumn garden. Although they look fragile, they are very hardy and flower through rains and frosts.

Another treasure for those of us who lack space is the beautiful grass *Miscanthus yakushimensis*, a scaled-down version of the rich, fountain-like grass which flowers in early autumn, changing to straw and brown later in the autumn.

Grasses such as this, as well as the seedheads of perennials, and evergreens, will carry the garden through the winter.

FRANCESCA GREENOAK

● Beth Chatto Gardens, Elmstead Market, Colchester, Essex CO7 7DB. Last Saturday opening today, then Mon-Fri, 9am-4pm. Entry £1.50. The catalogue costs £2.50, and orders can be taken for immediate, or spring delivery.

WEEKEND TIPS

● Increase watering and begin feeding cyclamen as they come up to flowering.

● Protect newly planted evergreens with windbreak netting.

● Plant tulips: normally aim for about 4-6in of soil above the top of the bulb.

● Dig over and fertilise ground for new trees and shrubs.

● Install a thermostatically controlled heater in the greenhouse to prevent freezing.

PETER TREVNOR



On their marks with the team for the lawn test, from left, grabber rake, brush sweeper, Leafbuster, Little Billy, Garden Vac, Billy Goat Termite

Just the job to turn over an old leaf

With blowers, suckers, rakes and sweepers, **Liz Gerard** gets to work clearing up the lawn

When Alfred Kilmer was moved to poetry by a tree, you can bet it had not just completed its annual striptease. As any gardener knows, the sight of all those discarded clothes left wantonly on the ground is more likely to inspire the blues than the muse.

Machines to help with the autumn clear-up have, until now, been the province of the ultra-rich. But suddenly the choice is baffling. So I gathered a small team to try everything from an old rake to a hugely expensive machine. As far as possible, each gadget was put through its paces on grass, patio, gravel and soil — not so much a field trial as a cottage garden test.

All manufacturers say their equipment should not be used by children. Knowing that children like to "help", we let a couple have a go, but they were well supervised and their boredom threshold was low, so they soon handed the machines back to the grown-ups.

● The **Billy Goat Termite** is an aristocrat of the leaf-sweeping community; it gobbles up everything in its path and has a built-in chipper that is far more powerful than any free-standing shredder on the domestic market. The five-horsepower Honda petrol engine is supposed to be easy to start, but it was not, even when warm. And once coaxed into life, it was almost unbearably noisy, hard to push and difficult to manoeuvre — but our testers forgave it almost anything because it was so efficient on every surface, including gravel. This is very much a machine for the country estate, though.
The 26in Termite costs £1,350. Optional accessories include a £95 hose attachment. Rivals include the Bolens self-propelled variable speed Maxi Chipper-Vac at £1,150.

● The Termite's baby brother, **Little Billy**, is far cheaper and far less efficient. This machine was fine at picking up dry leaves on compacted mud, but it completely ignored wet leaves on the grass — and it dug deep grooves in the lawn.
The 20in Little Billy costs £490, hose kit £95. The rival Bolens Mini Chipper Vac, with shredder, is £499. Billy Goats are available from Bob Andrews of Bracknell, Berkshire (0344 862111); Bolens from Claymore Grass Machinery of Bidford-on-Avon, Warwickshire (0789 490177).

● Those wheel tracks can be avoided by using hand-held vacuums, such as Echo's **Shred 'n' Vac**. This two-stroke model has a powerful blower that hustles leaves into position like a dog with sheep; and the vacuum is so efficient that it should not be used on borders or gravel: it dug up forget-me-nots and ate stones. The built-in shredder combined with a big shoulder bag means you can collect a lot of leaves without stopping — and they are easy to mulch. The motorbike whine gets to your ears and the vibration to your hands. But this was the machine we returned to after the test.
Echo's Shred 'n' Vac is £295 from Heron Products, Crawley, West Sussex (0293 515900). Flymo also makes a petrol vacuum at £149.95.

● A more likely choice for the average gardener is Black & Decker's electric **Leafbuster**. It blows, sucks and shreds with distinction, but is heavy, cumbersome and quite uncomfortable to handle. It is also noisy, vibrates a lot and the flex is a nuisance after the Echo. Such inconveniences are, however, offset by the speed at which it works, sucking up leaves from corners or planted borders and chopping them into tiny morsels. One tester liked this best, others were put off by the palaver involved in changing from blower to vacuum.
The Leafbuster is £95.99, excluding cable, from garden centres.

● Flymo's **Garden Vac** is a stylish, easy-to-use machine that worked on every surface and does everything the Leafbuster does apart from chew up leaves. It is more comfortable and changes functions at the touch of a switch, but it is much slower. The men voted this their favourite.
The Garden Vac costs £75.99 from garden centres and DIY stores. Other electric sweepers come from Ryobi (which also has one that converts to a strimmer) at £159.95 and McCulloch at £99.99.

● Before the age of the hand-held vacuum, the **brush sweeper** was the lord of the leaves. Looking like a cross between a mower and a pram, brush sweepers whip debris up into a triangular plastic container. Very effective on level grass, it is hampered by its unwieldy shape. It does not work on soil and will not go round corners, but it is good on a lawn or patio.
The Ginge 20in sweeper is £69.99 from J.T. Lowe of Christchurch, Dorset (0202 480412). Bob Andrews' Rapid Sweeper costs £129. Allen's brush sweeper is £99.95 (0235 813936).

● Simpler still is the **grabber rake**, a green plastic contraption that clutches the leaves it has gathered. It cleans up quite well, but you have to put your back into the work.
The grabber rake costs £16.95 plus P&P from the Traditional Garden Supply Co, Cranleigh, Surrey (0483 273366).

After all the gadgets, a plastic rake head lashed to a broomstick and a pair of wooden boards were among the most popular ways of clearing up. And we did not even try another perfectly adequate tool that lurks in most garden sheds — a mower.

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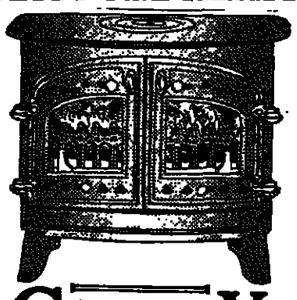
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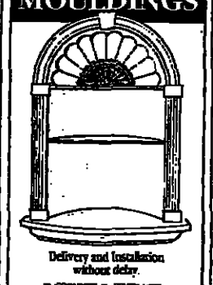
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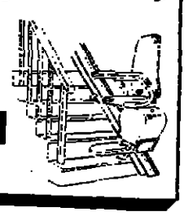
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Sale diary

☐ Marilyn Monroe fans have plenty to choose from at **Bonhams**, when the Eve Arnold collection of photographs comes under the hammer on Thursday. Miss Arnold recorded images of the star from her fresh-faced early days right through to disillusioned super-stardom. Offerings include her relaxing among some Long Island bull rushes in 1952, and disporting with Clark Gable on the set of *Misfits*. Prices for these and further Arnold images of Marlon Brando, Rudolf Nureyev and the Queen range from £300-£2,000.

☐ Two further distinguished women will be celebrated at **Christie's South Kensington**'s third annual auction of pottery by the late Clarice Cliff, and the nonagenarian Susie Cooper. Their brightly coloured designs, bearing cheery titles such as "Swirls", are expected to range in price from the low hundreds to the low thousands.

☐ Meanwhile, from November 2, the Contemporary Arts Society will set out to prove you don't have to be Madonna or Charles Saatchi to buy art, with its annual art supermarket at **Smith's Galleries** in Covent Garden. More than a thousand works will be on offer by contemporary artists such as Sir Anthony Caro, David Mach and Bridget Riley, as well as unknowns. Sponsorship from Sainsbury's means buyers can take purchases away in supermarket bags.

☐ During musical instrument week in London, **Phillips** will offer the first Stradivarius violin on the market for two years at £150,000-£250,000, while **Sotheby's** has the world's smallest violin at up to £2,500. Shorter in length than a 50p piece and capable of being played, this recent entry into the *Guinness Book of Records* was made by the Swiss craftsman Cornel Schneider. Anyone doubting its authenticity can look inside for the tiny maker's label.

☐ Finally comes **Sotheby's** Victorian paintings sale, where buyers could find themselves competing against Sir Andrew Lloyd Webber for two fine neo-Classical works by Sir Lawrence Alma-Tadema: "Egyptian chess players", estimated at £90,000, and "Spring Flowers", in which a stupefied girl carries a vase, estimated at £35,000. The composer is Britain's biggest collector in this category and sometimes attends sales.

SARAH JANE CHECKLAND

● *Bonhams, Montpelier Street, London SW7 (071-584 9161). Christie's South Kensington, 85 Old Brompton Road, SW7. (071-581 7611). Smith's Galleries, 28 Neal Street, WC2 (071-836 6252). Phillips, 101 New Bond Street, W1 (071-629 6602). Sotheby's, 34 New Bond Street, W1 (071-493 8080).*

How to pick tomorrow's writers today

After last week's look at first editions, **Joseph Connolly** picks modern contenders

Although there is nothing new about collecting 20th-century books, there is still a general feeling that first editions are all about venerable age, leather bindings and prices that bring tears to the eyes.

There is a steadily growing interest in the whole business of collecting modern first editions — indeed, many desirable books may still be found for less than the price of a newly published novel. People are often surprised to discover that their own shelves are littered with recent but already scarce goodies, for the simple truth is that if you have been in the habit of buying newly published quality literature, poetry and drama during the past ten or 20 years, you will almost certainly have gathered more than a few rarities along the way.

Most modern first editions still fall into the £10-£200 price range, although the very rarest items can fetch up to £20,000 or even more if they are for some reason unique — a special inscription by the author, for example. The key to a successful collection lies in choosing first editions (in the best condition) of literature that is to your taste. It is crazy to follow fashions — you could end up having paid far too much for books you never really wanted in the first place.

So who should one buy in the 1990s? When I started my own collection about 20 years ago, I had the pick of the most startling array of authors: Iris Murdoch, Ian Fleming, Agatha Christie, Kingsley Amis, Tom Stoppard, Muriel Spark, Harold Pinter, John Le Carré, Roald Dahl, John Osborne — even William Golding and P.G. Wodehouse — all in fine first editions, and all at a few pounds a time. Booksellers simply did not rate anyone later than Auden and Eliot, Greene and Waugh, and first editions of 1950s and 1960s authors were mixed in with reprints.



Joseph Connolly and a star

Thus I entered my obsessive phase. All trips in and out of London were planned around the multiplicity and quality of bookshops, and before I understood what was happening, I had bought my own antiquarian bookshop and was writing the book I desperately needed — a guide to collecting modern first editions.

Times have changed. People today are very aware of collecting generally, and although it might still be possible to pick up the odd treasure in a dusty bookshop, you should never expect to.

However, antiquarian booksellers are a fairly old-fashioned crew, and your knowledge and appreciation of current literature might well be superior to theirs. Such authors as Wendy Cope, Booker prize-winner Roddy Doyle, Rose Tremain and Nigel Williams are not exactly ignored, but it should be possible to gather quite a haul fairly cheaply. You are too late for Julian Barnes, Peter Ackroyd, Salman Rushdie (and about 15 years too late for Martin Amis), but there is still time to gather up Garrison Keillor, Nicholas Shakespeare, Peter Carey, Sebastian Faulks, Art Spiegelman, Ellis Peters, Elaine Feinstein, Nicholson Baker, Don de Lillo, James Kelman, Jay McInerney, Barry Unsworth and even the rather undervalued John Mortimer. Vikram Seth (the famous Booker non-winner) should not be ignored, while opinion is divided about the wild boy of fiction, Will Self: is it a cocktail of hype, cleverness and porn, or something more? Better get him — just to be on the safe side.

● *The fourth edition of Joseph Connolly's* Modern First Editions: their value to collectors *is published by Little, Brown at £25.*

Sebastian FAULKS



BIRDSONG

CURRENT COLLECTING PASSIONS

On the rise	*Holding steady*	*On the wane*
Kingsley Amis	John Betjeman	Peter Ackroyd
Martin Amis	William Boyd	W.H. Auden
Julian Barnes	Anthony Burgess	Anita Brookner
Samuel Beckett	Roald Dahl	Margaret Drabble
Saul Bellow	Lawrence Durrell	T.S. Eliot
Alan Bennett	Ian Fleming	John Fowles
Angela Carter	Kazuo Ishiguro	William Golding
Raymond Chandler	James Joyce	Ted Hughes
Agatha Christie	Philip Larkin	David Lodge
Richmal Crompton	D.H. Lawrence	Ian McEwan
Dick Francis	Doris Lessing	Timothy Mo
Henry Green	Louis MacNeice	Edna O'Brien
Graham Greene	Iris Murdoch	Mervyn Peake
Seamus Heaney	Vladimir Nabokov	Harold Pinter
P.D. James	V.S. Naipaul	Ezra Pound
George Orwell	Anthony Powell	Barbara Pym
John Osborne	Salman Rushdie	Tom Sharpe
Ruth Rendell	Tom Stoppard	Muriel Spark
Evelyn Waugh	J.R.R. Tolkien	Graham Swift
P.G. Wodehouse	Virginia Woolf	A.N. Wilson



Still time to gather up Faulks and Spiegelman

WHERE TO BUY



MOST second-hand bookshops devote a section, however small, to modern first editions, and the many provincial book fairs (details from your local bookshop) are excellent hunting grounds. Auctions can produce bargains, but one can also get severely burnt. Car-boot and jumble sales should not be overlooked, but do not expect to unearth treasure at them.

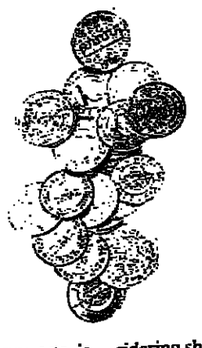
THE specialist shops tend to be in London. Here is a selection:
Ulysses Bookshop, 40 Museum Street, London WC1A 1LH (071-637 5862).
Bell, Book and Radmall, 4 Cecil Court, London WC2N 4HE (071-240 2161).
Bertram Rota, 9-11 Langley Court, London WC2E 9RX (071-836 0723).
Skoob Books, 15 Sicilian Arcade, London WC1A 2QH (071-404 3063).

Muslims in a Berkshire town have established a colourful free market — complete with its own, coins-only currency system

The market that bans banknotes

What sort of monetary revolution is it that bans banknotes and uses gold and silver coins bearing Scottish nationalist slogans; a currency conceived in the shadow of a mosque in Slough?

Each Saturday morning crowds of Muslims gather in a marketplace to trade in a way that harks back to 8th-century Arabia. Tucked under the slip-road for the M4 to London, at the junction of the aptly named India and Diamond roads, the roar of the traffic does little to dull the business-like bustle of this colourful "free" market (there is no charge for market stalls), where anything from rice and spices to fake designer shoes is on sale.



Here, a small band of Muslim converts is challenging the established order of trade by banning the use of paper money. Instead, it mints its own coins in a bid to resurrect ancient Islamic codes of business.

Weaving between the brightly clothed children rushing around the stalls is Othman, the "cadi" (a judge in a Mulsim community) and unofficial banker, who exchanges the customers' British currency into silver dirhams and gold dinars. The rate of exchange, based on the cost of minting the 22-carat gold and sterling silver coins, is £45 for a dinar and £2.25 a dirham.

Shop around and a pot of home-made honey can be had for seven-tenths of a dirham (£1.57) and a multi-coloured weave basket for under two dirhams. As there are no smaller denominations, change is given in sterling.

Minted abroad, the Diamond Road Mosque market coins were originally destined for an Islamic community in Scotland and bear the legends, "Now's the day and now's the hour" and "As long as but a hundred of us remain alive". However, the organisers are considering shaving costs by commissioning a firm of medal-makers in the Midlands to manufacture a new set of coins for them.

The main architect behind the idea is Salih, the white convert son of a merchant banker, who sells pulses and rice and has a lucrative sideline importing Peruvian asparagus.

"What we are trying to do is put the true value back into the exchange between buyer and seller," he says. "They can see that their gold and silver is actually worth something instead of being just a piece of paper."

Inside a makeshift tent, the community elders take off their shoes, sit cross-legged on elaborate carpets and discuss in Urdu the day's trade, while being served hot, black coffee and freshly baked cakes. Resplendent in his gleaming white traditional robes, cap set off by his long dark beard, Muhammad Zafar, a community leader, spreads his arms wide and speaks of his hopes for the market's future.

"Look at Mr Mars Bar," he says, referring to the company which has been based in Slough since 1932. "He started making his chocolates by hand; look at where his company is now. These things take time."

Mr Zafar hopes the venture will find support from non-Muslims who, he feels, will see the benefit of this kind of trading system.

"We want everyone to see that we are setting a moral example in the way we conduct our business," he says.

Often a place as much of banter as of barter, the market is a focal point for people to meet and trade rather than a money-spinning forum for the small-time entrepreneur. Word is spreading fast, mainly through the women in the community, who discuss the latest bargains over the counters of local stores.

Afzal, a 19-year-old bookseller, says: "I don't come here for the money, I come here to see the establishment of a free market. For me that is the most important thing." So important that he uprooted from Birmingham to be at the nucleus of the movement.

JULES LEE

PETER TREVNOR



Dirhams at the ready, girls from Slough's Muslim community pore over books at a stall in the town's "free trade" market

DIAMOND ROAD MARKET

THE free market is held in the car park of the Diamond Road Mosque in Slough every Saturday, 10am-5.30pm. There are strict rules:
- It is free. There are no tariffs or taxes for stalls.
- No usury is permitted.
- Stalls are allotted on a first-come, first-served basis.
- All paper money is prohibited, but the use of coins of the realm is allowed for change.
- No one is allowed to sell their goods on the way to the market.
- No one is allowed to buy something and sell it for profit in the same market or within a three-mile radius. (These last two are, in fact, old English laws).
- If you own a store/shop you are not allowed to sell your goods from that source, you must bring them to the market for sale.
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All in a good cause, **Andrew Pierce** swallows his panic and makes a sponsored parachute jump


STEVE HILL

With both feet firmly on the ground again, a grinning Andrew Pierce proudly displays the certificate testifying to his parachute jump — "I knew then I must be mad. I'm going to do it again"

I began to agree with the suggestion that I might be mad when I wedged myself into the open door of the aeroplane with my feet dangling in the air, 2,000ft above the ground, preparing to hurl myself into the abyss.

As I tumbled into nothingness, shouting "1,000, 2,000, 3,000, 4,000" as instructed, with my arms and legs outstretched, I was dimly aware that not only was I falling fast, and that the bottom had dropped out of my stomach, but that I was terrified.

Before panic had a chance to set in, the static link worked, my parachute opened, and as I was dragged across the sky, calm descended all around.

"Where is the airfield?" I gasped as I grabbed the toggles which steered the 'chute. "God, is it even open properly?" It was. Would I have remembered to pull the emergency cord if it was not? I'm not convinced.

The road, I thought, should not be down there. Steer away from the River Orwell, it is too close. Worse, that fence looks dangerous. I turned the 'chute slowly round. There it was. The relief. The feeling of elation as I spotted Ipswich airfield, my target.

I swooped like a bird. I turned into the wind, which was gusting at five miles an hour, to slow my descent. "I'm enjoying this," I thought.

In a cricket match far below, I watched the batsman score two runs. It is much more sedate up here, I thought. The sailing on the river looked good. The sun shimmered on the water's surface.

My friends, Ali and Matthew, had landed. They must be OK. No stretchers in sight.

None of us had wanted to go first, or last. We tried to convince ourselves that we were doing the right thing. It had been a long wait. It was the fourth attempt to jump. High winds had put paid to the previous attempts.

We were determined because we were raising money for the Globe Centre, a drop-in centre in the East End of London for people who are HIV positive.

Not everyone wanted to sponsor me. Helpful friends pointed out that parachute jumps cost the NHS more money than they raise because of the carnage they can wreak. I had done one in 1980 when I was 18. I declared triumphantly. "Well, you should know better then," was the usual response.

Undaunted, and with pledges of several thousand pounds between us, we went to Ipswich Parachute Centre for a weekend training course. It was awful.

We were put through our paces by bullying instructors, jumping this way and that, backwards and forwards. When we failed to grasp the technique, knees bent, feet together, swinging to the left or right, we were humiliated by the experts.

We dragged the 'chutes around, pretended we understood how they operated, talked about theory, and promptly forgot most of what we had heard.

The next day we were up with the lark, bruised from the previous exertions, ready for more ritual humiliation. We did not care. We were jumping after lunch. Actually, no, it turned out we were not jumping after lunch. It was too windy. Such an anticlimax. We waited for hours. It merely increased the anxiety.

Four of our group managed it a few days later. After endless telephone calls and wasted trips to Ipswich, the remaining three of us finally arrived at an airfield bathed in sunshine. "Too windy," we were told. We vowed to wait until midnight. But the wind dropped and 45 minutes later we were kitted up. We were finally going up. The instructor asked what was the most important thing I should remember. "Jump out and look up at the wing-mounted camera," I said. He was not amused.

There was much chain-smoking, posing for photos, and feeble jokes to our friends, who had come to watch, about where we had left the will. The walk to the plane seemed to take for ever (it was 20 seconds). And why was I grinning like an idiot?

When we reached 2,000ft I looked out of the window, and wished I hadn't. It made me feel sick. Ali and Matthew were quiet. Matthew went first. It seemed OK. Ali jumped, or was she pushed? No. She fell out in an undignified tangle of limbs.

The plane circled the airfield. In 60 seconds it would be my turn. I could feel the colour drain from my cheeks. No, I would not smile for the photographer perched in the cockpit. I edged to the doorway and looked down, an even worse mistake. The instructor, human at last, smiled encouragement. "Go," he barked. Did he mean me? No. He must mean someone else. But I had gone. I forgot to look up.

It was so peaceful, so calm, and relaxed. Much better than therapy. I knew I was about to land when I could see daisies. I did not want it to end. It seemed unfair. Those bruises, the humiliation, anxiety and sleepless nights for less than two minutes in the air.

I hit the floor with a bump and swung to the left. I had made it. I knew then I must be mad. I'm going to do it again. Next time I will look up at the camera.

● *Weekend training courses at Ipswich Parachute Centre, Ipswich Airport, Nacton Road, Ipswich, cost £105. If you do not jump within six months of the training, a half-rate fee is charged for a refresher course. For further information, ring 0473 710044.*


The instructors give a last-minute briefing before the take-off


In the cabin of the aeroplane, the group waits for the word to go

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Together or alone, young or old, everybody is welcome when the barns echo to the stamp of dancing feet

Take your partners or come on your own


Kicking up their heels to that old-time music at a dance at Buston Manor Barn in Kent

"Come to the barn dance tomorrow." Any other kind of dance and such short notice would have given me leeway to get out of it. No time to fix up a babysitter, have a dress cleaned, find a partner. But a barn dance is an impromptu come-as-you-are, with-anybody-or-nobody occasion, and these excuses will not wash. Nor will pleas that you cannot dance and must have a course of lessons. Roger Trim, who, as part of the Tranters Folly group, barn-dances up and down the country, says: "The steps take three minutes to learn."

The difficult part, I was told, would be getting there. As it turned out, Lughorse Lane wound compliantly to the farm road leading to Buston Manor Barn: it was reality that I nearly lost track of.

The acres of Kentish corn, the dewponds and the coppices where they still burn charcoal, could have been charted by Cobbett on his ritual rides, as could the barn, 14th-century, timber-framed and hip-roofed. "Built on the spring line," says Evelyn Boscawen, the owner, "as they all were."

Such rural idylls jostle uneasily with the demands of an entertainment licence, an essential piece of paper if you are involving the public in this kind of event, and one which can prove nail-bitingly elusive. "Ours was only confirmed this morning," said Dr Joy Virden. "Next time we'll apply sooner." The dance is being held in aid of her surgery's scanner appeal.

Emergency fire exits have been highlighted. Torches are at the ready. Sand-filled buckets have been placed strategically for cigarette butts. And a striped beach tent, marked "ladies" in large letters, stands beside the main entrance.

Also in stripes is Geraldine Brown, a fortysomething management accountant who is organising this event. She is wearing a shepherdess-style dress with a petticoat hanging below. She has pigtails with a ribbon, just like Judy Garland playing Dorothy in *The Wizard of Oz* (the resemblance, she says, is not intentional). "I thought I'd have to bamboozle people into coming," she says, "but not a bit of it." Two hundred tickets at £7 each (including barbecue and pudding) just sold themselves.

"Come and join in," she urges. Behind her, jumping up and down on the spot to the strains of "D'ye ken John Peel", is a conga of about a third of the guests, ranging in age from two to 73. They are wearing stetsons, dungarees, neckties and gingham, with a smattering of Crimplene and jeans. I cower in the way non-sporty parents do when support for the mothers' and fathers' races is being drummed up.

The conga moves into the lighted barn. The band, dressed in waistcoats embroidered in traditional Dorset feather-stitch with English flowers and birds, strum "The Rakes of Mallow" and "The Woodchopper's Reel".

"All join hands. Into the middle," calls Mr Trim. The Tranters Folly group are Thomas Hardy enthusiasts. "He collected many of these tunes," says Mr Trim. The young Hardy played his violin in Stinsford Church and at country dances in the neighbouring area. On the 150th anniversary of his birth, Mr Trim borrowed the violin from the Dorchester Museum, took it to Westminster Abbey and played "Rosebud in Summer" in Hardy's honour.

Mr Trim's elder brother Eddie strums the banjo, and talks of how his interest in country dancing was sparked at primary school. Nick Thomas, a teacher, is playing the accordian. Their feet keep robust time with the music as Roger Trim leans over the microphone. "Tiraloo a la loola la loola la lay."

The floor is filling up. Charlie Williams, a pensioner who went to his first barn dance 30 years ago, says: "It's a laugh. You can go to some dances and never make critical contact."

Frederick Dalton, a doyen of ballroom dancing for 40 years, has never been to a barn dance before and is wondering why not. "It's really nice to see people happy and enjoying themselves like this," he says.

By now the rhythm has prised nearly everyone out of their seats. "Way down upon the Swanee river, far far away. Circle round the lady," shouts Mr Trim. "Into the middle and back."

Maria Schofield, 23, who is just finishing at university, last went to a barn dance when she was ten. She has not stopped dancing all night. "They don't have this type of thing in London," she says. "It's brilliant. Completely different."

Robin Rilley, a solicitor from Patching, West Sussex, now has barn dances instead of the more run-of-the-mill office parties. His daughter, aged two, can join in, too. "There's such a racket, it doesn't matter about children," he says. The one he remembers best was when "it was tipping with rain and it came in through the roof. That made for lots of togetherness."

"I don't think barn dances work so well when they are not in barns," says Veronica Wooding, who goes to half a dozen each summer and the odd one in winter. "They used to have them in the Maidstone Corn Exchange, but it wasn't the same. I hope they have 'Oxo' here tonight. You circle and cross and circle and then when you have formed the position, you shout 'Oxo'."

It is nearly midnight and I have to go. To the slow waltz of "Oom pah pah", I make my way to the car. I wish I could have stayed for longer. It is not the getting there that is proving the difficult part: it is pulling myself away.

JESSICA GORST WILLIAMS

● *For details about barn dances taking place countrywide write with stamped self-addressed envelope to English Folk Dance and Song Society, 2 Regent's Park Road, London NW1 7AY, or telephone 071-485 2206 on weekdays between 9.30am and 5pm.*

● *Tranters Folly Barn Dances and Hardy Concerts, Roger Trim, 256 Westbury, Sherborne, Dorset DT9 3EA (093581 4648).*

هكذا من الأصل

Pawns in the hands of the wizard of wood

Michael Hall meets a furniture maker with an unusual chess challenge

It is hard to imagine a request that could faze Andrew Varah. In the 20 years since he set up his own furniture workshop, he has been asked to design and make everything from jewellery boxes to boardroom tables, in styles as varied as his clients' tastes. Gothic, art deco and even Chinese furniture have been some of the inspirations for his custom-made pieces, each one unique.

A dealer in financial futures asked for a set of four chairs to symbolise his daily dealings with chance: a playing card theme was the result, with the chair backs carved into the shapes of a club, heart, spade and diamond.

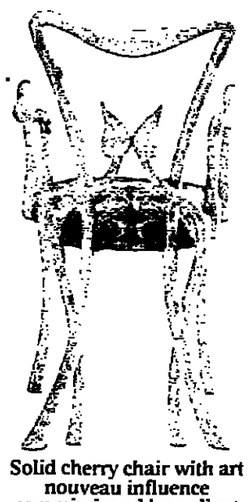
One current project is even more challenging — a man who has retired from a career in India wants a desk that will remind him of an elephant.

His versatility helps to explain the zest that Mr Varah brought to designing the pair of chairs which will be presented to Garry Kasparov, the winner of *The Times* World Chess Championship. A chess enthusiast, Mr Varah began by studying the behaviour of the players during matches. "When they are sitting down they lean forward on their elbows — there's no lounging back in the seats," he says. That suggested a chair without arms, yet it has been made as comfortable as possible. The gentle curve of the back and the angle of the seat derive from careful measurements of the body in a seated posture.

Practical points aside, the most difficult task for Mr Varah was to create a design that would both embody a chess theme without cliché and be the record of a unique event. There are no inscriptions, which would have been the obvious solution. Instead, the design is based on a chessboard, rotated through 45 degrees and reproduced as an open lattice to form the chair back. This is gently curved — a formidable challenge for the cabinet-maker, as every joint is set at a different angle.

The resulting lightness of line dictated the appearance of the rest of the chair, deliberately kept simple to contrast with the complexity of the back. There is a visual joke in the pawns which form finials on the back's uprights — they sit on wedges, a reference to their tactical value in driving a wedge into the opposing pieces.

The final touch, which transforms the chairs into a trophy, is the inclusion of specially carved chess pieces in the backs. They represent the appearance of the board at the end of the first match in the championship, won by Kasparov after Nigel Short ran out of time. The black pieces have been mounted on one chair, made of Indian rosewood with a seat of black burr walnut, and the white on the other, which is English holly with a bird's-eye maple seat. Only when the chairs are put back-to-back can the layout of the whole board be seen.



Solid cherry chair with art nouveau influence commissioned by a client last year

Mr Varah is now busy with the design of a second, similar pair of chairs, also on a chess theme, which is to be the prize in *The Times* readers' competition (see right).

The combination of playfulness and exacting standards of craftsmanship which these chairs embody is appropriate for a game of high seriousness such as chess. It is also a characteristic of Mr Varah's work. He delights in games: some of his pieces are presented to clients with a challenge to find the secret compartment within a year (they often lose).

Fun is not perhaps the first characteristic which comes to mind in a survey of modern British furniture design, dominated — when it has not been in thrall to historic models — by an often dour arts-and-crafts functionalism. Mr Varah's idyllic rural workshop, housed in converted barns next to his 17th-century half-timbered Warwickshire home, looks just the sort of place to turn out lumpy oak settles or respectful imitations of Queen Anne tallboys and Sheraton sideboards. But, despite his respect for tradition, he has never copied.

"Clients often want a piece that will sit happily with 18th-century furniture — but I just ask myself what a 1990s designer living in the 1790s would have come up with."

This combination of traditional cabinet-making skills and contemporary inspiration is evident in the spacious workshop which Mr Varah shares with his five assistants. In one room, for instance, are the traditional stacks of exotic veneers, whereas another houses rainbow-hued, pressure-dyed aspen wood from Italy.

He has been experimenting lately with printing photographic images on to wood, a pictorialism that gives Mr Varah particular pleasure. He was recently inspired by advertising hoardings to create a child's chair in which the back is made of triangular poles which can be rotated to create three images — a happy, sad or thoughtful face, according to its owner's mood.

Such inventiveness makes it hard to characterise Mr Varah's work — but then, as he says, his versatility is prompted by the demands of his clients. "Most people are afraid of commissioning furniture because they think it must be ridiculously expensive, or they will have to accept whatever the designer chooses to give them."

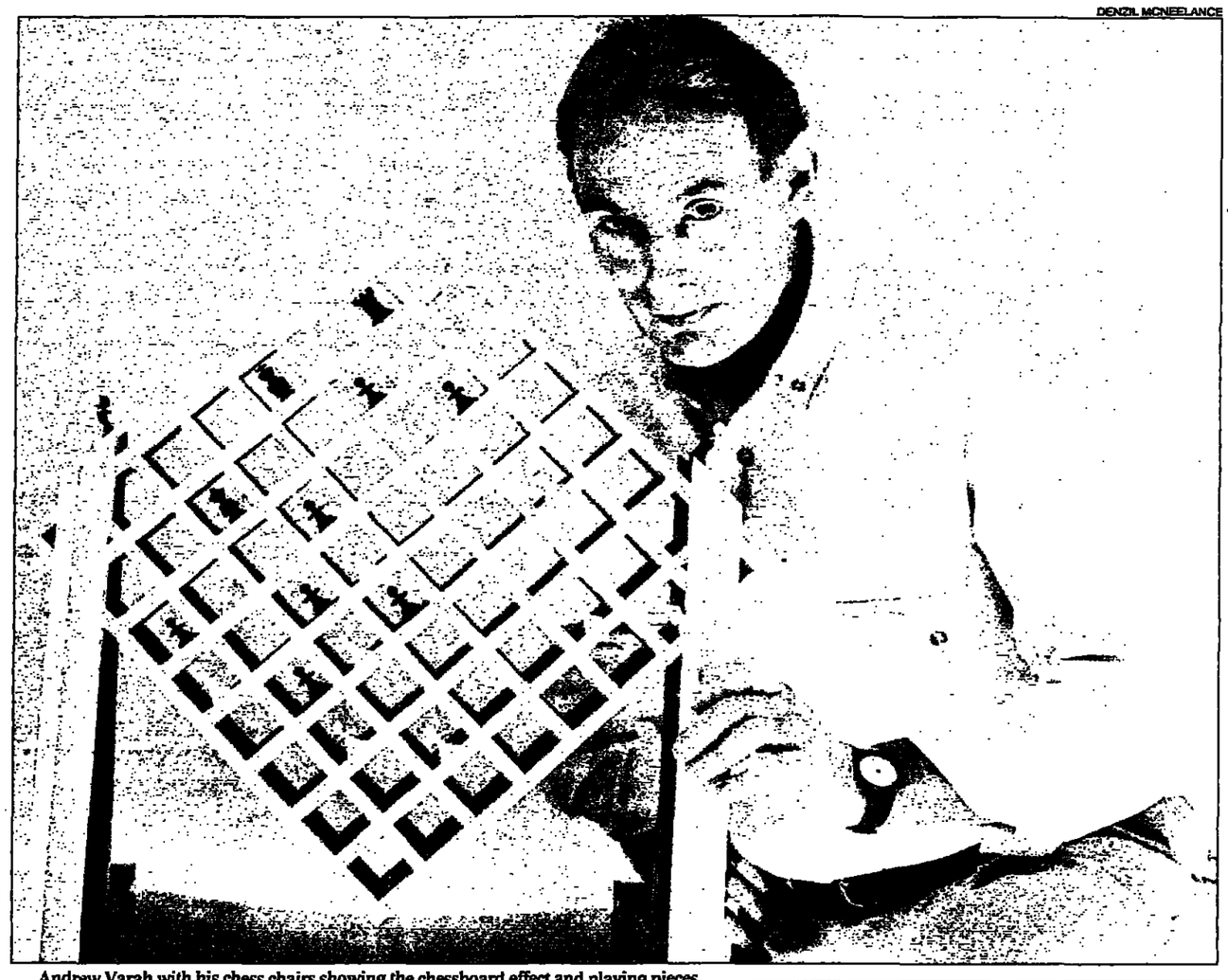
He offers the advantages that stem from both designing and making his own pieces. That puts him in a minority: many well-known designers have never wielded a plane in their lives, and the exaggerated British respect for "craftsmanship" means there are far too many furniture makers with good technical skills but no imaginative flair.

For anybody wanting a wardrobe or dining table that is out of the ordinary, it must be comforting to work with someone who derives such pleasure from realising their dreams.

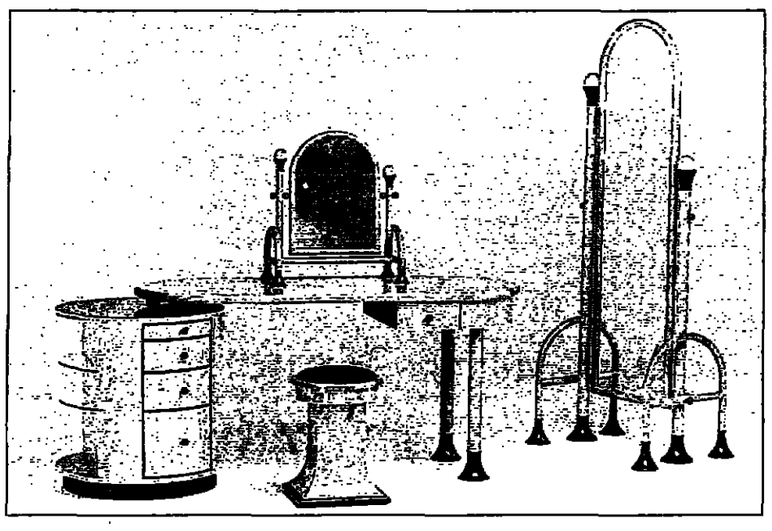
"A client recently wrote to me to say that the first thing he did every morning was go down to the dining room to look at the table I had made for him — he just couldn't believe that something he had imagined now really existed."

● *The author is visual arts editor of* Country Life *magazine. To contact Andrew Varah, telephone 0738 83000.*

DENZIL MCNEELANCE



Andrew Varah with his chess chairs showing the chessboard effect and playing pieces



Andrew Varah's dressing-table set showing art deco influence. Made in holly, rosewood, satinwood and cherry, with a deep blue silk stool cover, it was designed in 1990 for the British Interiors design exhibition

THE TIMES £3,000 COMPETITION

Win these chess chairs

READERS are offered the chance to win a superb pair of chess chairs designed by Andrew Varah exclusively for *The Times*, and *worth £3,000. One chair is black, the other white.*

The frame of the black chair is in wenge wood, the seat and back in veneered Rio Rosewood. On the back, a square of oak and walnut marquetry creates a chessboard effect, with the playing pieces at the final positions of the winning championship game between Kasparov and Short. The white chess pieces are in maple, the black in black aspen. The white chair, with matching chessboard, has a light oak frame. The seat and back are veneered in bird's eye maple.

● **To win these superb chairs, answer these three questions:**

1 *Which country introduced veneering and marquetry?*

2 *Chair legs with carved ball and claw feet were introduced in which period of history?*

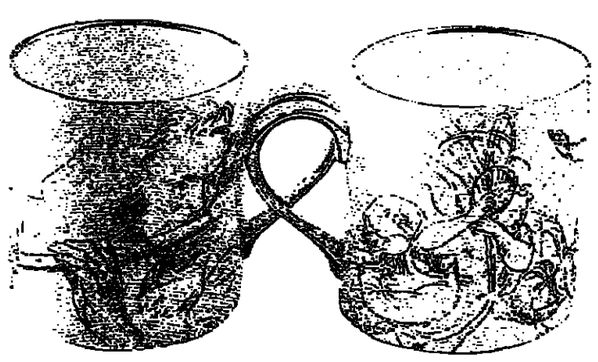
3 *What was the common name for chairs made at the end of the 17th century with horizontal slats across the back?*

● Send your answers with your name and address on a postcard to: *The Times* Chess Chairs Competition, Promotions Department, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN, to arrive no later than November 10, 1994. The first correct answer to be drawn after the closing date will win. Times competition rules apply.

DENZIL MCNEELANCE



"Leonardo da Vinci" watch (£49.95) and giftwrap (80p)



Bone china mugs (£9.95 each) designed by Simon Wildsmith

Shopping as an art form

J. Paul Getty's collection has inspired the Royal Academy shop

THE history of art is the history of revivals, according to Samuel Butler. So it should surprise no-one to find a contemporary boost for Classicism in the items on sale in the shop at the Royal Academy of Arts in London.

Choosing products as suitable mementoes for exhibition visitors or early Christmas shoppers means treading a fine line between commerce and art, according to Josephine Lundberg, managing director of Royal Academy Enterprises. "We try to remain as true as possible to the spirit of the exhibition in the designs we've selected," she explains. "But it hasn't been easy because the drawings are so refined."

Chosen to tie in with the current exhibition, "Great Master Drawings from the J. Paul Getty Museum", the items include a silk twill scarf commissioned by the shop from textile designer Rachel Copeland. This exclusive design, in which elements from four drawings in the exhibition are overlaid on a parchment background, is available only during the run of the exhibition (price £49.95).

The same is true of two delicate bone-china mugs designed by the artist, Simon Wildsmith (£9.95 each). One has a detail of an image by Antoine Watteau, the other a bacchanalian theme inspired by Giulio Romano.

To encourage amateur artists, a stylish wooden box of coloured and graphite drawing pencils, plus eraser, sharpener and wooden ruler, costs £14.95, while natural wood pencils with integral erasers cost 60p each.

It is worth stocking up on art postcards (40p) and greetings cards (£1) as well as giftwrap (80p) and tags (40p). There are two wrapping paper designs: cherubs and swags against a cream/blue background and an astrological design on a parchment background.

THE framed prints of reproduction drawings by Rubens, Rembrandt and Watteau sell for between £49.95 and £120, while the unframed prints of Michelangelo, Raphael, Leonardo da Vinci, Ingres, Van Gogh and William Blake are priced at £7.50.

Just for fun, there is also a Branco watch (£49.95), whose numeral-free face depicts Leonardo da Vinci's linear *Corpo Umano* drawing. It is guaranteed for a year and has a brown leather strap and gold-plated case.

NICOLE SWENGLEY

● "Great Master Drawings from the J. Paul Getty Museum" *is at the Royal Academy of Arts, Piccadilly, London W1V 0DS (071-439 7438) until January 23. Times readers are offered a 10 per cent discount on all Getty merchandise on presentation of the voucher in today's newspaper (see page 15).*

THE TIMES AND THE HOUSE OF KRUG INVITE YOU TO A CHAMPAGNE DINNER



Celebrate with a gourmet night out

Here's your chance to enjoy a superb evening of wining and dining in good company. *The Times* is celebrating the House of Krug's 150th anniversary of producing its world-famous champagnes with a gourmet dinner at the impressive Alderley Edge Hotel in Cheshire, one of the finest country house hotels in Britain. And you are invited to join us there.



Guests at this special, black-tie evening on Thursday, November 18, will be greeted at the hotel with a friendly reception at which Krug Grande Cuvée and melt-in-the-mouth canapés will be served.

Then follows a memorable five-course dinner, prepared by the hotel's renowned chef, Brian Joy. His carefully created menu includes selected fish delivered that day from the Fleetwood market, succulent loin of Brecon lamb, the pick of the fresh vegetables, herbs grown in the hotel gardens, a delicious dessert, and a selection of breads, cakes and pastries baked in the hotel's ovens. Accompanying the meal will be three top-of-the-range champagnes — Krug Grande Cuvée, Krug Rosé and Krug Vintage 1982.

The surroundings for the gourmet dinnner are equally magnificent. Set in a picturesque Cheshire landscape, Alderley House Hotel is of nearly the same age as the House of Krug. It was built in the 1800s as the private home of one of Manchester's wealthy cotton barons. The sandstone building has been lovingly refurbished and is now recognised as among the finest in Britain.

The price of this celebration reception and dinner is £80 per person, which includes service and VAT. And for those guests who would like to stay overnight, *The Times* has arranged a special rate of £65 for a single room and £80 for a double, including a full English breakfast (the normal prices are £87 and £100, respectively).

Like the idea? Then why not come and join us.

RECEPTION

Canapés of smoked salmon, caviar on Bellini bread, hot goat's cheese and leek quiches and sesame sticks
Krug Grande Cuvée

THE DINNER

An Othello of ravioli courting a confit of langoustine, seasoned with saffron
Krug Grande Cuvée

*****

Chicken and tarragon consommé with sweetcorn dumpling and gnocci

*****

Roast loin of Brecon lamb on a crystallized chestnut and shallot sauce, with autumn vegetables
Krug Rosé

*****

Fresh peach soufflé with an apple and caramel sauce, with Don Tuilles biscuits
Krug Vintage 1982

*****

"Alderley Edge" coffee, with handmade chocolates, biscuits and sugar posies

If you enjoy fine cuisine and the best of champagnes — and perhaps have another reason to celebrate — please complete the coupon and return it to us as soon as possible. Invitations are necessarily limited

THE TIMES

KRUG GOURMET DINNER

Please reserve ..... invitation(s) to the Krug Champagne Gourmet Dinner at the Alderley Edge Hotel at £80 per person

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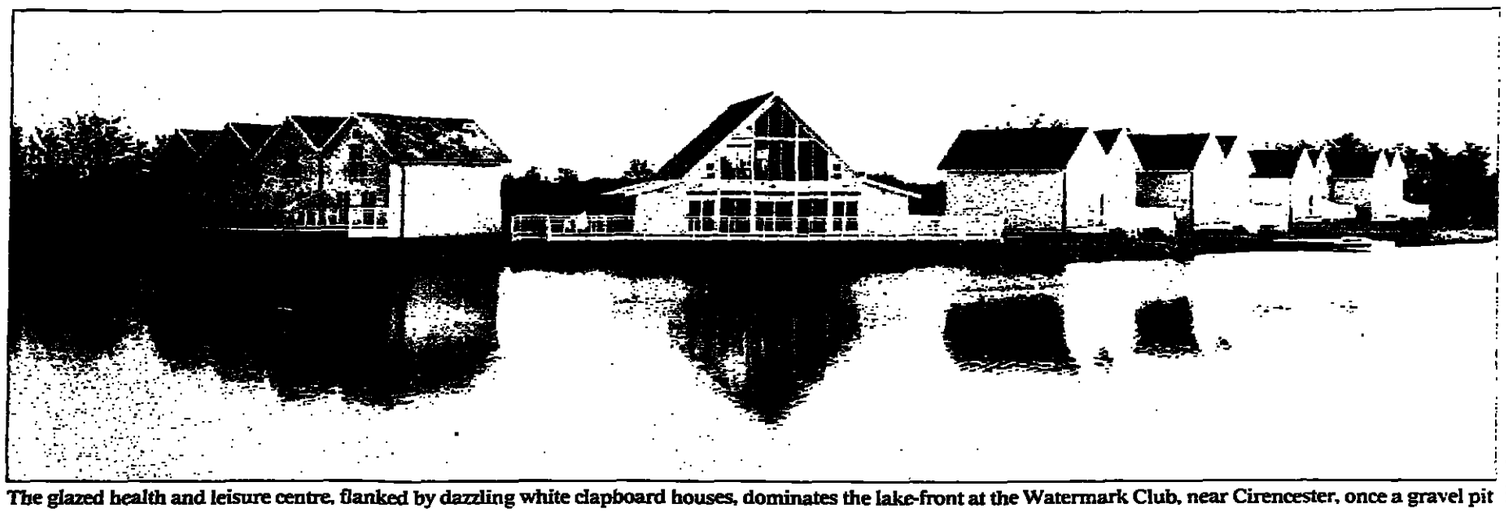
Please post coupon and remittance to:

Jo Langran, *The Times* Krug Gourmet Dinner, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN

Invitations are subject to availability

Yearning for the healthy country life, **James Hepburn** investigates a brand new lakeside development

New slant on an old dream



The glazed health and leisure centre, flanked by dazzling white clapboard houses, dominates the lake-front at the Watermark Club, near Cirencester, once a gravel pit

LONDON 30 OCT 1993 GT. BRITAIN

SECOND HOME

It is Saturday morning at 8 o'clock. The children are downstairs. They are restless. You can sense this, although there is no sound. The silence means they have found the rat poison/hanged the cat/hanged each other/phoned the speaking clock in Canberra/all of the above. You open the curtains. The sun is shining. The tall city buildings melt into the haze on the horizon. Somewhere out there, you think, there must be something better.

Most city people dream of escape to the country. If work ties us to the smoke, we imagine a rose-girdled weekend cottage. I went to Gloucestershire — South Cerney, near Cirencester, to be precise — to look at the modern alternative.

You may have seen the advertisements for the Watermark Club in the colour supplements. Under the heading "Which is the smarter move?" are two photographs: one of a cottage in Cotswold stone, looking charming but rather dowdy against an overcast sky; the other of a pair of dazzling white clapboard houses, with balconies and sun-decks looking down on a speedboat moored on the bank of a lake, set against a cobalt, cloudless horizon.

Beneath each property is a list of features. The cottage's list is short. The clapboard list runs almost off the page. There is free golf on two courses, a lake, a gymnasium and a lease that, if taken out in the year of the Norman Conquest, would still have 72 years to run. The cottage costs £120,000; the houses £72,000.

There are still saints with hearts so pure they will pay cash for stone-cladding to a man in a kipper tie. For most of us, though, too many estate agents' details have soured our faith in advertisements. The first surprise on arriving at the Watermark Club was that it wasn't a time-share offer. The second was that the place seemed to be more or less everything it claimed.

The one thing I would question is that the Watermark has an "idyllic Cotswold setting". The development is in The Cotswold Water Park, a stretch of lakes formed by gravel extraction. The land is flat and uninspiring. Perhaps eventually, when all the country's food grows on an allotment in Bexleyheath, and the Archers have England's only working farm, all our countryside will be like this.

The houses are modelled on the clapboard homes that line the New England coast in America. When the development is complete, there will be 76 houses, facing south across 200 yards of lake.

Downstairs there is a fitted kitchen, shower-room and a large living-room, looking out through double French windows on to the sun-deck. Upstairs are a bathroom and three bedrooms. Each house has central heating and carpets.

Most houses are semi-detached, some terraced. The lease specifies that residents cannot bother their neighbours. In theory, you could come here to lock yourself away from the world, but that's not the Watermark idea. Jeremy Paxton, the chief executive, sees ownership as membership of a club.

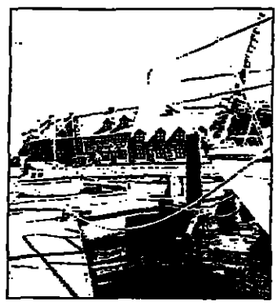
The lake-front is dominated by a health and leisure centre. Upstairs is a gymnasium lined with bizarre instruments of torture. Downstairs is a restaurant and bar where owners read the papers on cane chairs and revel on party nights to Ricky Calypso's Rock and Rhythm Revue. If you want it to be, the place can be an amalgam of health farm, package holiday and cabin in the woods. Everything is accessible. For £4 a tow you can water-ski off your doorstep. In ten minutes you can be golfing, fishing, riding, wind-surfing, sailing. Living is healthy and easy. If there was cotton, it would be high.

So where is the catch? There is a yearly £1,000 ground rent fixed to inflation and a £750 service charge. For this you get the sport, security and rubbish collection. Site management is designed to ensure maintenance and viability.

According to Watermark, re-sale has not been a problem with its other properties. It says at the first development, in Cambridgeshire, built in the late 1980s, every property re-sold has brought a profit of at least 20 per cent. Watermark likes to keep control of re-sale. The company takes 2.5 per cent on all sales.

The one thing that you cannot do with these houses is to make them your main home: occupancy is based on the house being a second home. This kills my dream to sell up in the smoke and become a fitter, better and happier person. Saturday morning still finds me gazing at those tall city buildings thinking that somewhere out there, there must be something better.

● *For details of holiday homes at South Cerney telephone Watermark Leisure on 0666 510777.*

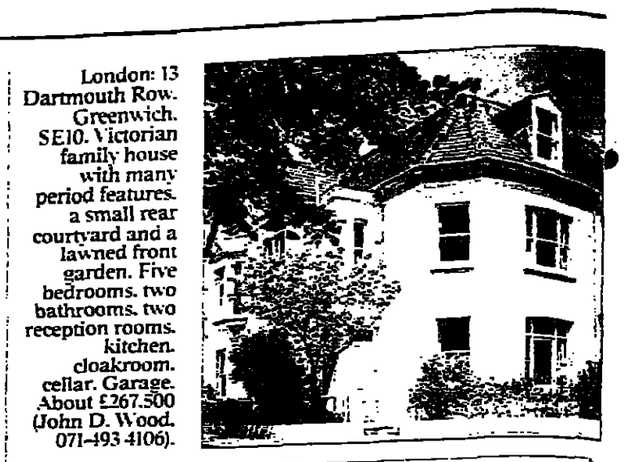


At Island Harbour, on the east bank of the river Medina, a mile and a half upstream from Cowes on the Isle of Wight, you can buy a freehold, two-bedroom holiday cottage with a 33ft marina berth at the bottom of the garden, for £91,750. Four-bedroom houses can be had for as little as £98,750.

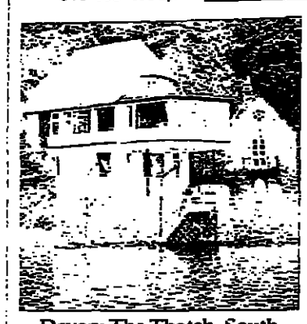
Each house is brick-built, with a large sitting-room, cloakroom/utility-room (with washer/drier), oak fitted kitchen (with oven, hob, cooker hood and waste-disposal unit), *en suite* bathroom and shower-room. All come with a rear garden, waterfront patio and car-parking space.

Planning permission has been granted for these houses to be used only as holiday homes, with up to 42 weeks' occupancy a year. Ownership or use of a boat, which is normally to be kept within the marina, is obligatory for house owners, but there are no stipulations as to dates of occupancy or size of the boat.

● *Waterside Properties (081-542 9599).*

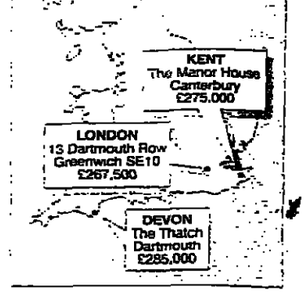


London: 13 Dartmouth Row, Greenwich, SE10. Victorian family house with many period features, a small rear courtyard and a lawned front garden. Five bedrooms, two bathrooms, two reception rooms, kitchen, cloakroom, cellar. Garage. About £267,500 (John D. Wood, 071-493 4106).



Devon: The Thatch, South Town, Dartmouth. Thatched boathouse with annexe. Two bedrooms, bathroom, shower-room, "quarter deck" sitting room and kitchen with 180-degree views over the harbour and estuary. Annexe with bedroom, living-room and kitchen. Terraced gardens and sea-water swimming-pool. About £285,000 (Fulfords, 0803 832223).

FOR SALE AROUND £275,000





Kent: The Manor House, Hernhill, Canterbury. Grade II listed 15th-century hall house with 18th-century castellated addition and luxury converted coach house in half an acre of walled gardens. Four bedrooms, three bathrooms, drawing-room with two open fireplaces and exposed beams, library, dining-room, kitchen, utility room and cloakroom. Secondary house with three bedrooms, two bathrooms, 34ft living-room and kitchen, double garage. About £275,000 (Cluttons, 0227 457441).

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ELEGANT and stylish 1 bedroom ground floor flat with 2 high ceiling rooms of generous proportions. The flat has featured in a national magazine. 5ns close to Barons Court and West Kensington stations. £79,950. No agents. Tel 071 736 6386.

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HOLLAND PARK Lansdowne Cres. Quiet, sunny, 1 bed flat in portered block. Living room extensive view, modern kitchen. £107,000. 071 221 1848

JOHNSTON and Pycraft (Homesearch) specialise in the acquisition of properties for clients. Details 071 352 0775.

SOUTH KEN. SW7 tastefully d/g 1 bed. blt. htd/swr shwr, recep. 1 mile Glos Rd tube. 118 yrs. £109,000 ono or rent £900/mth 081 579 3932

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SHELDON Ave. Kenwood N6 spacious modern G/F Flat. Lg reception, 3 Br, 2 Bath, new kit. Balcony. Lg garden. Off st. park. Storage. Reduced £139,500. Tel:081 347 8100

WELL WALK St. Lovely flat for sale. 1 min Heath. 2 mins Village. 17'recep. F/F kit. 2 beds. 1 bath. 1 rm. CH. OCH, security. £179,000. Work 071 287 4422, home 071 433 1492

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HYDE PARK Albion Mews.. Private sale. Spac. Freehold 150sc 3 storey Coach house. Large open plan recept room & dining room. Modern eat-in fully fitted kitchen, cloakroom, 4 bedrooms, 2 full bathrooms middle floor. Top floor, large sitting room, bedroom & bathroom. Terrace with views. Garage. Full security. Gas central heating. New roof, perfect order, quiet. £510,000 (negs. Tel: 071-402 6512. Fax 071-402 9384.

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BISHOPS MANSIONS, SW6. Light & spacious 2 bedrm 2nd (lr flop) flat. L/hold £129,950. Sullivan Thomas 071 731 3333

BLOOMSBURY WC1 Newly mod studio flats in PB Block. Close to Russell Square Underground. Ideal Pied à Terre. 10% yr lse. Prices from £45,950. Macmillans 071 725 3678.

CLONCURRY ST, SW6. Lge 3 bedrm family house south facing gdn with potential roof extension. F/hld £340,000. Sullivan Thomas 071 731 3333

DONEGALL ST. SW6. Well proportioned 5 bedrm Victorian family hse with potential off street parking F/h £598,000. Sullivan Thomas 071 731 3333

FULHAM SW6. 4/5 bed, 2 bath Vict family hse in St Dionis Rd, Parsons Green. Gdn & small roof terr F/H £295,000. Barnard Marcus 071 384 2318.

FULHAM SW6. 3 bed end terr Vict. house within popular 'villas'. dbl recep, kit/brkf, garage. Reduced. F/H £179,950. Barnard Marcus 071 384 2318.

FULHAM SW6. Unmod. F/H. within Conservation area. Peterborough Est. Ex opportunity £300,000. Barnard Marcus 071 384 2318.

FULHAM 3 bed 2 bath 2 rec mais. £129,000. Squire Radcliffe. 071 381 5863

HAMMERSMITH Terr hse in cul-de-sac on 3 floors. 3-4 beds. double rec, 2 baths, study. Garden. Good parking. F/H £199,000. Tel: 081 748 3086.

HEREFORD RD, W2. A stunning 2 bd gdn mais with a dble height conservtry & a 40' west facg landscaped gdn. Exc dec order. F/h £276,000. Winkworth 071 727 3227

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Newly refurbished 5 bedroom, 4 bathroom penthouse, double reception, double balcony. New carpets. In prestigious pensred block with spectacular views of Hyde Park.

£575,000

Tel: 071 372 7685.(T).

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SALTER REX
071 431 1881

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CAMDEN/Northants/Beds borders C17 grade II farmhouse in rural village. 3 recps, 5 beds, 2 baths. Inglenooks, exposed beams. Secluded gdns backing onto open pasture. Exc. rural/rail links. £199,950. 0832 710280.

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LITTLE VENICE/Maida Vale. The specialist local agents. Vickers & Co 071 289 1692

LONDON E1 Attractive 3 bed townhse close to all amenities. £79,000 ono. 081 519 2022

N7. Lovely 5 bedrms 2 bathroom detached family house. Big garden. £275,000. 071 607 1079

ROSAVILLE RD, SW6. A well presented 'Villa' house in popular location. Pretty dbl rec kit/din. sth facg patio. 3 beds. bath. ch. Close Parsons Green. Ex underpriced £195,000 f/h. George Stead Ltd 071 731 8480

ST GEORGES MANSIONS SW1 4th floor bright & light 1 bed flat. Long lease £80,000. Dunstons 071-834 9000

WARWICK SQUARE SW1. Grnd floor 1 bed flat o'looking Sq Gdns. Long lease £104,000. Dunstons 071-834 9000

W1/WC1 A selec of 2 bed flats £100,000- £150,000 Tel 071 240 3322 for list Winkworths

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HOPE COVE, nr Salcombe, South Devon. Greatly reduced for cash buyer. The finest 4 bedroomed, 2 baths luxury bungalow. Central heated/dble glazed. Many extras incl cptc. ctns, fitd wardrobes etc. Exc retirement or 2nd home. Reduced by £50,000 to offers over £225,000 for quick sale. Tel evenings 0627 404700

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Agents: LONDON OFFICE 071 439 3900

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Luxury 3 bed flat in castle. 700 ft river frontage with fishing rights/boat. 4½ acres landscaped gardens. Ideal holiday property/retirement. Secure and maintained. £89,500. 0202-546968

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UNIQUE converted farmhouse. Gr. flr rec. 400 persons. Front drive-in approx. ¼ acre. BK gdn approx ½ acre. 1st flr - 3/4 beds c/s and sitting/dining/kit, verandah's. STG380,00. The proprietor, 'Saverin' Ghaxlis Road. L/O Naxxar NXR 09, Malta. Tel: 356-431280. Fax 356-249242

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DORDOGNE 9 miles South of Bergerac. set in 5 acres of woodland, a beautiful modern 3 bedrm villa with provision for 3 further bedrms. With fitted kitchen, bathrm, WC, liv lounge, 35' X 16', CH, newly dec throughout. Outside: lge garage, potential studio. 975,000 FF. Tel: 0865 234898 or 01033 53687834

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MIDI Pyrenees region, stone built village house on 5 floors beautiful quiet location £45,000 for details 081 758 5297 day 081 840 1370, 0374 273 848 eve.

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LETTINGS

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For viewing 071 493 1528.
NO AGENTS

BALCOMBE ST NW1. Immaculate conversion. Spacious f/f grd flr m'nette. Period lge recep, bdrm, kit, vaulted gdn. £320 pw. 071 224 9719

CHELSEA Redcliffe Rd. Pretty & quiet tree lined street. lge rec 1st mod bath. kit all appliances. £185pw 081 870 4705

CHELSEA SW3 Low built 2 storey house, 2 beds, 2 baths, 2 recops, Long let. £650pw. De Groot Collis 071 352 1066.(T).

BLAKES
PRIMROSE HILL Period lse 2/3 rec 4 beds, 4 baths, roof terrace. impressive, uniform £675pw
BRYANSTON MEWS Mews hse 2 beds 2 baths large recep. Furn £425pw
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CHELSEA 3 bed 2 bath s/l mais. R/serv. New dec. £300pw 071 352 0713(T).

W1/WC1 Selec of quality 2 bed flats furn/unf £225-£300pw 071 240 3322 Winkworths

Friday 29th October

هكذا من الاصل

هكذا من الأصل

Kriss Akabusi and the dreams that made him a winner: **Ruth Gledhill** reports on an unusual church service

Crossing the hurdle



THE athlete Kriss Akabusi, looking racy in a light green shirt and brown trousers, warned us that the last time he spoke in public a member of the audience threw a missile at him because he went on for so long. "I like to talk," he explained, grinning.

We were in the unlikely setting of the Novotel Southampton, a modern hotel, where the Waterfront Church was founded last year to counter a conviction that church was "boring, irrelevant and hostile", and to confront attempts to debunk historical Christianity.

The ambience was disturbingly like that of a business conference, complete with questionnaires on the chairs and plastic pens with which to fill them out. We were invited to write down the question we would most like to ask a creator-God, assuming He existed and we were granted five minutes in His presence.

Earlier, I had asked Akabusi what question he was asked most often. The surprising answer was: "Did you enjoy the *Big Breakfast*?" — Channel 4's weekday morning show, on which he was a guest presenter this summer.

At the Novotel church every chair was taken in the carpeted conference room. There were large numbers of teenagers in baggy sweatshirts, jeans and Doc Martens. A few adults were squeezed between them. Akabusi's wife Monika and his daughters, Ashanti, aged nine, and Shakira, six, sat in the front row.

The service opened with a song, "Living Hope", from Pete Emberley and Sharron Pearcy, who sang and strummed guitars. Then the leader, Trevor Waldock, explained the beginnings of the church — formed "with the specific aim that it would be a church for people who did not want to go to church", based on the idea of "putting Jesus in the context of the 1990s".

After watching a morality play, we were introduced to the main performance, from Akabusi, aged 34, who has retired from athletics and taken up Bible studies, public speaking and addressing schoolchildren. Working through the charity Christians in Sport, he preaches at different churches and receives enough invitations to keep him busy.

"Do you have dreams?" he asked us. "I have had many, and sometimes the dreams have come true. For me, one of the biggest dreams in my life was that I would go to the Olympic Games, stand on the awards rostrum and then go 'Yaaaaah!' " He yelled this so loud that we jumped.

He then described (using hands and feet) leaving the starting block in the final of the Barcelona Olympic 400-metre hurdles in 1992: "A big brown shape comes past me. This is not what I call a dream; this is a nightmare." The race was won by the American Kevin Young, although Akabusi set a new British record. "There I was in third place and yet still the fastest man in British history. There I was a failure. I had not made it. I was not the best."

Then he grinned, and pulled his bronze medal from his pocket, and the congregation cheered. He said he had realised, on the rostrum, that he had nevertheless done his best. "Now when I look at this baby in my pocket, I realise I am a champion," he said.

He described growing up in poverty — dreaming of a "lovely car, lovely family, nice threads". When he obtained his dream car, a Mercedes, he wanted a bigger, better one.

The turning point came after the Commonwealth Games in Edinburgh in 1986, while reading a *Good News Bible* in his hotel room. "There was a guy in there. Obviously I had used his name before, but I never realised he actually lived. I thought he was like the tooth fairy and Father Christmas."

The following spring, while training in California, he begged Jesus to "let me know if you are really who you say you are". Akabusi grinned again and said: "That was the biggest or best mistake I ever made. That night I went to bed and I had what I call a vision." He heard a verse from Matthew's gospel. "I shouted 'Jesus!'. Then I looked around because it is not cool to shout Jesus in the middle of the night. I got out my Filofax and wrote it down. In the morning there it was, my baptism by the Holy Spirit at 0300 hours. So I went down to the track. There they all were, Roger Black, Daley Thompson, the guys. I said: 'Guys, guys, I met Jesus last night'. They said: 'Are you crazy?' "

Christianity has worked for Akabusi. He now has the bigger Mercedes, with the number plate ECC 724, his favourite chapter and verse from Ecclesiastes. At the end of his sermon, he asked those of us who considered ourselves Christian to stand up — the kind of request that normally inspires me to run for the nearest door. About a dozen had the courage to remain seated, but I for once was unable to withstand the challenge, when confronted with such a muscular Christianity.

● *Sunday service 8-9pm.*

JAMES CHEADLE / SOLENT NEWS



Akabusi gets off the mark for his "sermon" at the Waterfront service held in a hotel



The Olympic hurdler relaxes with young churchgoers

The Waterfront Church, Novotel, 1 West Quay Road, Southampton SO1 0RA (0703 672277).

PASTOR: The Rev Trevor Waldock.

SERMON: The congregation was transfixed by an eloquent talk from the athlete Kriss Akabusi, whose winning ingredients were the willingness to laugh at himself and an astonishing turn of speed as he raced through his complex and gripping life story.★★★★

ARCHITECTURE: Postmodernist style, which suited a postmodernist church in a hotel.★★★

LITURGY: A "play" in which a marital tragedy was enacted on stage. The moral message seemed to be that we should examine the beams in our own eyes before attacking the motes in our partners'.★★

MUSIC: Three Christian "numbers" from a duet, Peter Emberley and Sharron Pearcy. The congregation did not join in. The effect was sugary.★

AFTER-SERVICE CARE: Coffee and a host of counsellors and helpers ready to answer any question about God, Christianity and Kriss Akabusi.★★★

SPIRITUAL HIGH: Exhilarating in a way that was also slightly exhausting.★★

★ stars are awarded to a maximum of five.

BOOKMARKER

What the papers said: **Derwent May**'s bookbuyers' guide

5/5 *Pleasure ratings are awarded to a maximum of five. Column centimetres indicate the length of reviews in national broadsheet newspapers.*

4/5 **The lady's not for cutting:** Never in the field of human reviewing has so much been written by so many so quickly. Lady Thatcher's memoirs, *The Downing Street Years* (HarperCollins £25), were handed out to reviewers on Sunday last week. By the following morning there were already two long, indignant reviews to read: in *The Daily Telegraph* Philip Ziegler was pronouncing the book "cantankerous and dogmatic", while Hugo Young in *The Guardian* was finding it "of onerous length . . . sometimes unendurably self-serving" and "as an account of the Thatcher years, a failure".

The Times gave Lord Blake till Thursday to produce his review: he wrote more calmly, and judged the book to be far more balanced than first reports had suggested. She was "stating her case" — and the results were "highly readable". In *The Evening Standard* the next day Nigel Lawson returned to the attack, but in feline style: his praise of her as a prime minister only highlighted his pained criticism of the memoirs. "Margaret Thatcher sets standards of self-regard hitherto unknown," he wrote sighingly. "History will judge her more kindly than historians will this book." On Saturday morning came the longest review of all, by Geoffrey Howe in *The Financial Times*. Not surprisingly, he thought the memoirs were "scarred by an almost obsessive desire to justify her last three years in power", years that were themselves "marred by decisive and fatal errors of judgment". He set the record straight from his point of view. In *The Independent* that morning Andrew Marr seemed impressed by the book somewhat against his will.

The Sunday papers went off in more maverick ways. Roy Jenkins in *The Observer* proved by mathematics that the early reviewers could not have read the whole book, and blamed the author's collaborators for the book's "bland prose". In *The Independent on Sunday* Robert Harris simply dismissed it as "a nasty piece of work". In *The Sunday Times*, Simon Jenkins took the book as "a densely reasoned defence of Thatcherism" and argued with it closely on those terms. But he warned that it was a book for Thatcher addicts, not fans — "clothes, food, friends, laughter, holidays, tears are seldom part of it". Meanwhile, in *The Sunday Telegraph*, Alan Clark was showing his loyalty. The book was "incomplete" and "polluted by the attention of hacks" — but "the author's achievements are so titanic that her story can carry these flaws". The figure below is a record for this column.

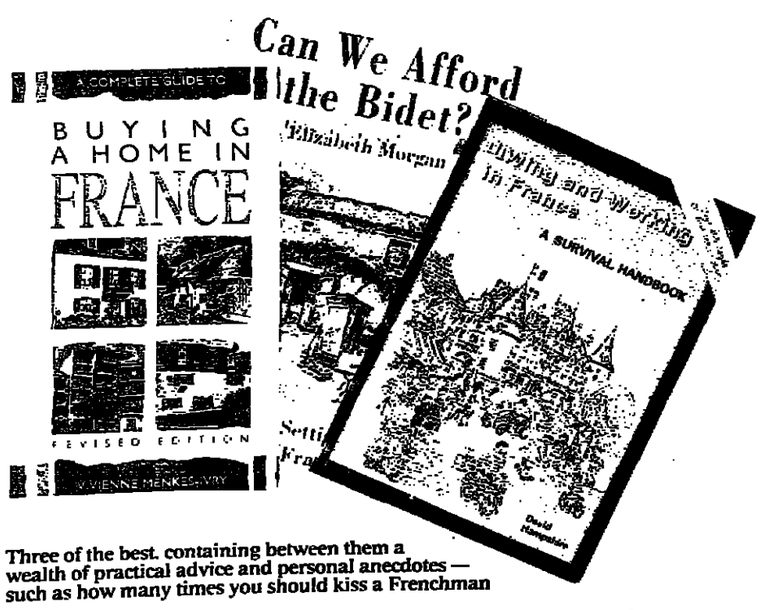
Col cms: 923

3/5 **The other PM:** "Revenge! Spite! Fury!" wrote Val Hennessy in *The Daily Mail*. No, not Thatcher again, but Penelope Mortimer's *About Time Too: 1940-1978* (Weidenfeld £16.99), in which her former husband John Mortimer is "lacerated by her scalpel-sharp pen". Hennessy felt the portraits of other people in the book were "skimped". But in *The Daily Telegraph* Hilary Spurling praised its "unsparing emotional clarity . . . wit, energy and devastating accuracy".

Col cms: 90

Homework for the French house-buyers

Cheryl Taylor raids the book shelves for guidance on buying in France



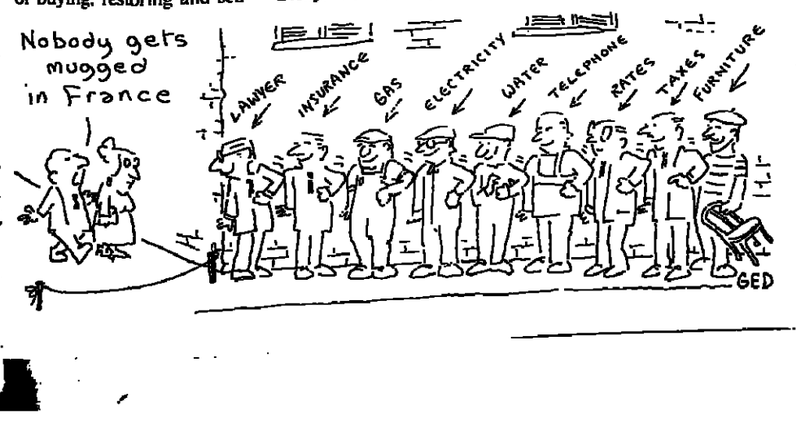
Three of the best, containing between them a wealth of practical advice and personal anecdotes — such as how many times you should kiss a Frenchman

● **A Complete Guide to Buying a Home in France** *(revised edition) by Vivienne Menkes-Ivry, published by Simon & Schuster (paperback, £6.99)*
This book is a must. In its second edition, it provides a mine of useful, up-to-date information. Well researched and packed with useful tips, it is also a readable guide to the pleasures and pitfalls of life in France. It offers advice on all aspects of property purchase and restoration from what, where and how to buy (with a guide to the regions) to tackling the French legal system, finding tradesmen, paying bills, buying furniture, letting and selling.

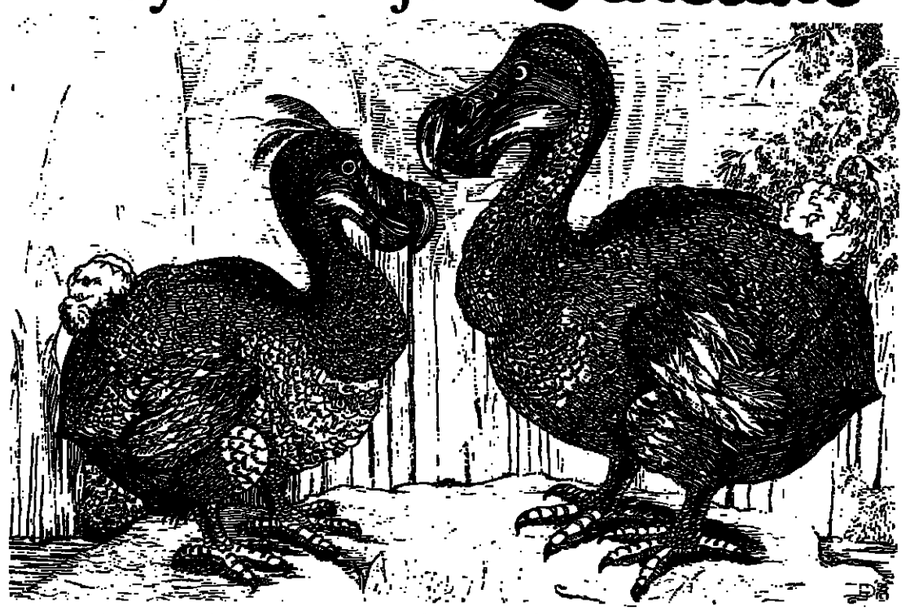
● **Can We Afford The Bidet? A Guide to Setting Up House in France** *by Elizabeth Morgan, Lennard Publishing (hardback, £14.95)*
Elizabeth Morgan, a veteran of buying, restoring and selling old houses in France, passes on her invaluable experience, plus a wealth of practical information and an amusing account of the author's times spent in France. The first chapter deals with the basics, such as gas, electricity, water, telephone, insurance, rates and taxes. Others cover building work, buying furniture (including the French second-hand scene), banks, health care, letting your French home and the law. It offers a few short cuts and several cautionary tales, conveyed with humour.

● **Living and working in France — A Survival Handbook** *by David Hampshire, published by Survival Books (paperback £10.95)*
A comprehensive guide to all things French, written in a highly readable and amusing style, for anyone planning to live, work or retire in France. It covers all aspects, with advice about French conveyancing, how to obtain a residents' permit, find a job and get the best education for your children. There is also useful information about health care, public transport, motoring, insurance, how to find the best shopping bargains — and how many times you should kiss a Frenchman.

CHERYL TAYLOR



They didn't join Dateline



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Danced to any good books lately?

From fancy-dress discos to authors in bed, libraries will try anything to woo young readers, says Jane Bidder

Late night discos, a café, a youthful membership and music at ear-piercing volume hardly constitute a typical, traditional library. But Yoker Youth Library in Glasgow — which claims to be the only library for teenagers in Britain — is different. No reprimands here for raised voices. Far from it. "We want young people to relax in here and learn to love books," says librarian Anne Louise McGough. "Young people frequently disappear from a library from the age of 12. After that, it is difficult to get them back. We hope to keep them here."

Grabbing your reader, from birth to OAP status, is a message which is about to reverberate throughout the country during National Library Week which starts on Monday, masterminded by the Library Association. Rural and urban branches will be plying their trade in as innovative a manner as possible. Indeed, Yoker Youth Library, which opened three years ago in two converted schoolrooms on the outskirts of the city, offers a world of words, music and social life that many teenagers would give their eyeteeth for. On Thursday, there is a fancy-dress disco, while next Saturday is a 1970s open day with television programmes and music from the era and, of course, staff dressed up in contemporary gear.

Unlike most libraries, Yoker stays open late — until 8.30pm twice a week and to nearly midnight when a disco is in full flight, although these generally take place only in school holidays. Nor are there fines. "Instead, we send out overdue notices and then collectors visit individual homes," says Ms McGough. "We have a very high return rate as a result."

Not only has the scheme pulled in readers — Yoker claims a membership of 2,000 — but it also provides a social fall-back. "We encourage people to talk to us. We hear about all kinds of social problems. Some of us have had youth training, but all of us are happy to provide a listening ear," says Ms McGough.

James Derrick, 14, is a regular. Despite the noise, he claims to get "peace and quiet here, which I don't with two younger brothers at home. I come here after school and stay until it closes. All libraries





Karaoke capers at the Yoker Youth Library

should be like this." James thinks he reads more now than he used to, although traditionalists might question the content of his reading. His favourite fodder is the graphic novel, a cross between a comic and a book — for example, *Treasure Island* illustrated with cartoon characters and speech bubbles. Still, if it makes them interested in reading, it cannot be bad . . .

The same might be said for seeing Allan Ahlberg in bed. Well, it makes a bedtime story with a difference, doesn't it? At least, that is the idea at Birmingham public library, where on Tuesday, Mr Ahlberg and other brave novelists will take turns to lie on a bed, in the middle of the library, to read aloud. The readings continue into the night, as long as everyone has enough stamina (and hot chocolate) to keep going.

Reading aloud to the children could become a dying art unless parents pull up their socks. Warwick Library will be passing on some tips on Thursday from 6.30 to 7.30pm with "Storytelling by candlelight for the whole family", when professional reader Guy Hutchins will be recounting fairytales and more. "We hope the candlelight will create a good atmosphere," says librarian Pat Dunlop. She also hopes it might encourage more parents to pick up a book when the children have gone to bed, instead of merely collapsing in bed instead.

Reading, of course, should be fun, which is why librarians at Stockton library in Cleveland will be dressed up in storytime costumes (Red Riding Hood, etc) to draw in customers all week.

Not to be outdone, Ealing library in west London is hosting an "adventure game" for six to 11-year-olds. "Children are given a passport which is stamped every time they finish a book," says Miranda McKearney, press officer for National Library Week. "It provides an incentive to keep going."

Some children cannot stop. Six-year-old Laura Yates, from Cottingham in North Humberside, likes nothing better than reading in bed. On a recent visit to the library, she picked up a National Library Week competition form, inviting young readers to write a review of any book they fancied. Laura chose *The Owl Who Was Afraid of the Dark* by Jill Tomlinson. "I like it because the owl eats things first and then asks what it was," says Laura. "It's also good for children who are scared at night."

To her delight, Laura has been shortlisted as a prize winner. "Even if she doesn't win, it's exciting to have got so far," says her mother Paula, who is a Nevil Shute fan, "there's nothing like a good book."



Tie-dying at Glasgow's Yoker Youth Library, which claims to be the only library for teenagers in Britain



Guy Fawkes is coming

Children's events

☐ **London:** Speak to me. No, it's not another demanding child but the title of an exhibition at the Science Museum, explaining how technology helps those with speaking difficulties. Hands-on activities include a touch-screen questionnaire and sign language.
Exhibition Road, London SW7 2DD (071-938 8008). Today, 10am-6pm, tomorrow, 11am-6pm. £4, children £2.10.

☐ **Yorkshire:** Join the Pumpkin Party, make a Hallowe'en frieze/hat/pumpkin lantern (bring your own pumpkin), show off your wares at the pumpkin lantern parade.
East Riddlesden Hall, Bradford Road, Keighley, West Yorkshire (0535 607075). Tomorrow, 12-4.30pm. Free to National Trust members, others £2.80, children free.

☐ **Derbyshire:** There must be something about transport at night. Tram-spotters (young and old) will be entranced by electric trams running in the darkness at the Starlight Special.
The National Tramway Museum, Crich, Derbyshire (0773 852565). Tomorrow, 5-7pm. £4.20, children £2.

BONFIRE ROUND-UP

☐ **Sussex:** Brighton Lions Club's mammoth firework display. Arena events include juggling.
Meet at the Withdean Stadium, Tongdean Lane, Brighton, East Sussex (0273 439227). Friday Nov 5, from 5.30pm. £4, children under 12 £2.

☐ **Yorkshire:** Grand bonfire and firework display, plus steam trains at night.
Embsay Steam Railway, Embsay Station, Embsay, North Yorkshire (0756 794727). Saturday Nov 6 from 5.30pm. £3, children £1.50.

☐ **Wales:** Marvel at the biggest fireworks that can be legally used in this country.
Meet at Friars Point, Barry Island, South Wales. Saturday Nov 6, 7pm. Free (0446 735252).

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AT last I've reached the stage in life where all the attributes needed to keep a man happy are at my fingertips. Time to consult, background and education and to stimulate, imagination to amuse and excite. As we both have high standards you are influential public school 40-50 and will enclose photograph. Please Reply to Box No 4634

ATTRACTIVE professional 36 vivacious brunette petite loving caring C80H n/s would love to meet tall sensitive successful financially secure gentleman 33-42 for lasting relationship if you enjoy world travel old-ing conversation wining/dining romance lots of fun and mutual TLC Pick up your pen and go for it SW and London Photo and phone number appol. Box No 4666

ATTRACTIVE, stylish business woman, (30), with a son 18 and 2 dogs, living in West London. Interests: cinema, theatre, restaurants, would like to meet attractive, stylish professional/businessman in his 30's with a view to friendship/companionship. Reply with photo please to Box No 4631.

ATTRACTIVE Tall prof lady 30 seeks slightly arty, extrovert man 30-40 London/Surrey based to save her from solitary winter evenings of Tolstoy. Must hurry War & Peace already bought! Photo please to Box No 4686

ATTRACTIVE prof lady 49, resident France, music/art lover, seeks competent caring Francophile male to help run business & enjoy joie de vivre. Photo /letter. Reply to Box 4614

LADIES

ATTRACTIVE intelligent lady 40+ loves music, laughter, travel, food, art, sports, wishes to share with tall loving prof man. Plse Reply Box No 4596

ATTRACTIVE slim, shapely lady enjoys gym, bridge, wanting to meet well-groomed, financially secure, single gent 55+. Phone Sandra, 071 431 7913.

ATTRACTIVE female enjoys art, music, jazz, seeking professional gentleman 40+ with similar interests. Please Reply to Box No 4628.

BEAUTIFUL, upperclass, career-woman - also modest! 39. Wonders why men have not beaten path to her door. If successful, totally unmarried man, of similar background and varied interests, 40-55, London/SE, who feels challenged rather than intimidated, please write with phone number, to Box No 4301

BEAUTIFUL, adventurous and independent woman (30s) seeks attractive, successful older man for uncomplicated romance. Photo welcome. London. Please Reply to Box No 4670.

BEWITCHING brunette, 32, with feline eyes and grace seeks attractive prof gentleman as halloween soul mate. Box 4623

BLONDE blue eyed attractive professional lady 42 happy and relaxed nature financially independent many interests would love to meet affectionate professional/businessman 40's photo appreciated London/sw/se/e/w Box No 4685

CARING professional female 38 graduate, warm with SOH, enjoys country walks, travel, cinema, tennis, eating in/out, seeks relaxed n/s prof male. Please Reply to Box No 4669

CELIA, slim, attractive, lively, feminine. SOH, sincere lady seeks tall professional gentleman for lasting relationship, 40-55. Sussex based. Box No 4619

EAST Anglia based dynamic, elegant, stimulating lady seeks attractive, affectionate, intelligent, sincere and "connected" gentleman for serious relationship. 30s or 40s. Photo appreciated. Reply to Box No 4692

EDINBURGH gorgeous girl all the usual virtues & vices in abundance seeks caring loving man 40+ for future happiness. Photo app. Box No 4549

LADIES

ETERNAL feminine optimist, 5'9" tall, 50s, has a myriad of interests including the countryside, travel, boating, swimming and the arts. Seeks a tall, tall, caring, well educated mate. Sussex area. Please Reply to Box No 4646

FEMALE 33, seeks partner to share 1st time procreation. Marriage, prosperity, integrity, vitality and a warm sense of humour essential to evolve the "happy ever after". Please Reply to Box No 4611

LADY attractive solvent sophisticated living easy reach London seeks similar man of integrity with spirit of fun & adventure 55-60. Photo appreciated. Please Reply to Box 4668

LOVELY Wandsworth ladies, divorced professionals, 47s. An English blonde and a French brunette seek warm bright and successful men 45-60 to share love, fun and dog-walking! Photos please. Box No 4648

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PRETTY prof woman 45 blond francophile wishes serious relationship, with tall solvent, articulate senior prof 48-58 with usual liberal interests lake district n/s. Box No 4681

PRINCESS slim, 45 tired of kissing frogs wants to meet a handsome prince and live happily ever after. Box No 4684

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SOPHISTICATED sincere sensitive adventurous female seeks ns male 40+ with integrity and personality to share TLC and life's riches. ALA SW. Box 4589

STUNNING blonde 38 seeks man for socialising friendship and romance. Reply to Box No 4631

SUCCESSFUL shapely slim brunette (42) presently residing in Athens. Often travels to London/Europe. Said to be extremely attractive, stylish and elegant. Divorced, many interests, intellectual. I appreciate and enjoy a very nice lifestyle but haven't yet bumped into you and feel I am now ready to develop that special bond and love relationship with a stimulating charismatic man (wherever). Please write with photo to Box No 4622.

SUCCESSFUL Chiswick Lady would like to explore a new dimension that the right man might bring, as if you are slim, romantic, 48-58, enjoy conversation, wine, travel and other cultural delights and prefer silk to denim, let's meet. Box 4689

SWF 30, needs SWM 30-50 for pen pal/husband? C.C. PO Box 682 Lakeland California 96061

WARM chic attractive charismatic marketing lady, genuine, alive, fun. Seeks outgoing neurial gentleman friendsoulmate. 50's plus, open minded, kind, thoughtful, with others shares sense of purpose, laughter, mutual respect, support. Presently S.E. Reply to Box No 4515

WOMAN 59 seeks man of warmth and wit to share lifes successes and hiccups. West Country. Reply to Box No 4623

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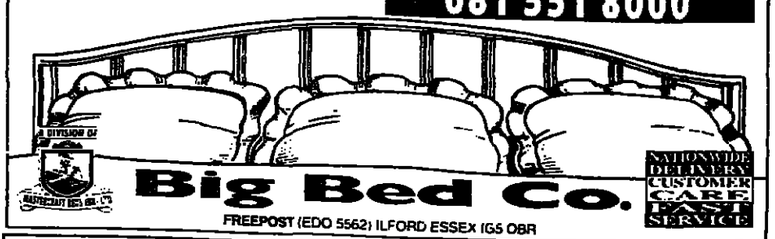
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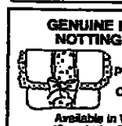


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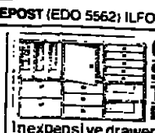
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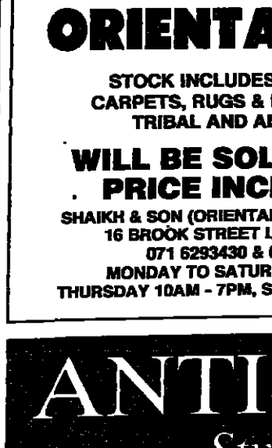
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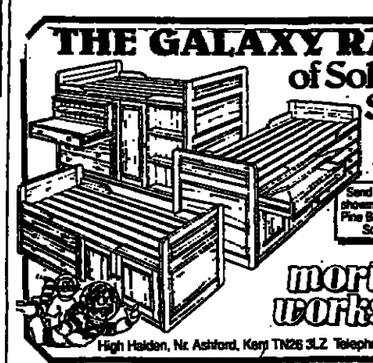
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"I am writing to say thank you very much for your book "The Natural Cure to Baldness", it is fantastic. I must admit I did notice a difference in the first two weeks, so I kept up the treatment for about another three weeks, and I was astounded at what I saw. My hairline was lower and thicker, I was absolutely over the moon. Also the doom and gloom feeling which haunted me since first noticing I was going bald went and I am filled with peace and joy again for the first time in four years. My hair's now growing faster and thicker."

Mr. S. A., Gillingham

"Just a note to say many thanks for "The Natural Cure to Baldness." It has changed my life. I never, ever thought my hair would grow back, it was thin on the crown and temple, but after ten months it has nearly all grown back. It is more than I could have wished for, just incredible. I am 31 and for a young man my confidence is back. Once again, many thanks."

A.M., Canterbury

"It seems that as consumers we complain, quite rightly, when something fails to give satisfaction. Alas, we are not always so ready to give praise when a product not only meets but exceeds reasonable expectations. I refer to D. Tubb's book "The Natural Cure to Baldness."

I found the book to be concise, yet comprehensive in both its theory and explanation. I commenced Mr Tubb's regime on 1/3/93 and I can truthfully state that I noticed an improvement within 10 days in that my hair generally had more volume and bounce. Today, after precisely one month, the results are nothing short of extraordinary, for new hair has already grown in the temple area. I do not mean fine or "wellus" hair, but hair of the same colour as the rest of my head, very clearly visible and approximately half an inch in length. This growth is all the more noticeable because it is below the previous hairline.

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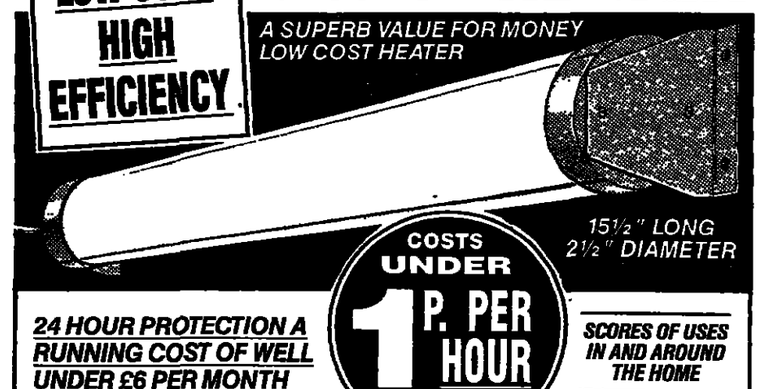
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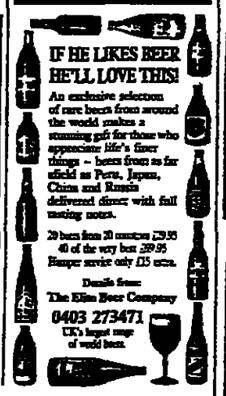
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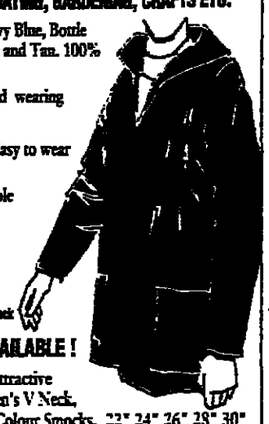
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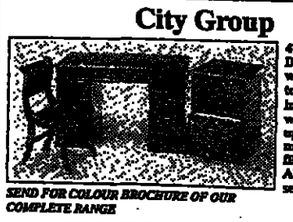
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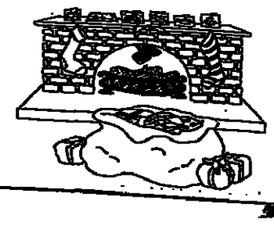
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Liz Brailsford and Nigel Charnock are locked in a brutal battle of wills in Charnock's *Original Sin* (see Dance)

THEATRE

LONDON

DANGEROUS OASIS: Last (delayed by injury) production in the Women's Work season. Bridget Mastrocola as the adventurous Isabelle Eberhardt, cross-dresser and desert-crosser. Written by Nina Rapi.
Finborough, 118 Finborough Rd, SW10 (071-373 3842). Opens Nov 2, 8pm. Then Tues-Sat, 8pm. Until Nov 20.

EXACT CHANGE. Kevin McNally, Mike McShane and Steven O'Shea in David Epstein's comedy concerning three New Jersey restaurateurs.
Lyric Theatre, King Street, W6 (081-741 2311). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Wed, 2.30pm, and Sat, 4pm. Until Dec 4.

LOOKING THROUGH A GLASS ONION: John Waters comes close to conveying John Lennon's mysterious charm in this musical tribute.
Criterion, Piccadilly Circus, W1 (071-839 4488). Mon-Thurs, 8pm, Fri and Sat, 6pm, 9pm. Ⓢ

MACHINAL: Fiona Shaw, a moving heroine in Sophie Treadwell's expressionist drama from 1928. Masterly direction and design by Stephen Daldry and Ian MacNeil.
National (Lyttelton), South Bank, SE1 (071-928 2252) Today, 2.15pm and 7.30pm. Ⓢ

THE MADMAN OF THE BALCONIES: Play by Peruvian novelist and presidential contender, Mario Vargo Llosa. Peter Eyre plays a professor struggling to save the beauties of Lima from the bulldozer.
Gate, 11 Pembridge Rd, W11 (071-229 0706). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm. Until Nov 27.



Bridget Mastrocola stars in *Dangerous Oasis*

MR DIRECTOR: New Fay Weldon play, billed as a black comedy, about the reactions of authority when a 14-year-old is locked up in an isolation unit.
Orange Tree, Clarence Street, Richmond (081-940 3633). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mats some Thurs, 2.30pm and Sat, 4pm.

MOONLIGHT: Ian Holm and Anna Massey in the West End transfer of Pinter's play.
Comedy, Panton St, SW1 (071-867 1045). Previews Tues and Wed, 8pm. Opens Thurs, 7.30pm. Then Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Wed, 3pm and Sat, 5pm.

RELATIVE VALUES: Susan Hampshire heads a strong cast in Coward's snobbish but clever comedy. Tim Luscombe directs. First seen at Chichester this summer.
Savoy, Strand, WC2 (071-836 8888). Previews from Wed, 7.45pm. Opens Nov 8, 7pm. Then Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mats Wed and Sat, 3pm. Ⓢ

SHE STOOPS TO CONQUER: Donald Sinden, Miriam Margolyes, David Essex in Peter Hall's revival of Goldsmith comedy.
Queens, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 5041). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm. mats Sat, 2.30pm.

THREE JAPANESE WOMEN: Inside a Hiroshima brothel in 1951: latest production by the award-winning Mu-Lan Company, with David Yip and Jacqui Chan.
Cockpit, Gateforth St, NW8 (071-402 5081). Previews from Tues, 8pm. Opens Wed, 7pm. Then Mon-Sat, 8pm. Until Nov 27.

REGIONAL

DERBY: Guilty murderess or beautiful innocent? Daphne du Maurier's *My Cousin Rachel*.
Playhouse, Theatre Walk, Eagle Centre (0332 363275). Opens Fri, 8pm. Until Nov 27. Ⓢ

PLYMOUTH: Rare production of Dylan Thomas's *The Doctor and the Devils*, the ghoulish tale of Burke and Hare.
Theatre Royal, Royal Parade (0752 267222). Preview Thurs, 2.30pm. Opens Thurs eve, 7.30pm. Until Nov 13. Ⓢ

SHEFFIELD: Willis Hall's commissioned version of Jane Austen's *Mansfield Park*, directed by Michael Rudman.
Crucible, Norfolk Street (0742 769922). Previews from Thurs, 7.30pm. Opens Nov 9, 7.30pm. Until Nov 27. Ⓢ

SOUTHAMPTON: For one week only, the excellent Granville Saxton plays Petruchio in Patrick Sandford's production of *The Taming of the Shrew*.
Nuffield, University Road (0703 671771). Mon-Thurs, 7.30pm; Fri, Sat, 8pm; mat Sat, 2.30pm. Ⓢ

FILM

NEW RELEASES

DIRTY WEEKEND (18): Michael Winner's cheap, dismal version of Helene Zahavi's novel about a female doormat turned mankiller. With Lia Williams.
MGMs: **Fulham Road** Ⓢ (071-370 2636) **Oxford Street** (071-636 0310) **Trocadero** Ⓢ (071-434 0031) **Plaza** (071-497 9999) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (071-792 3332)

HOCUS POCUS (PG). Rowdy Hallowe'en romp with Bette Midler, Sarah Jessica Parker and Kathy Najimy as 17th-century witches at large in modern-day Salem. Director, Kenny Ortega.
MGM Trocadero Ⓢ (071-434 0031) **Warner** Ⓢ (071-439 0791)

THE PIANO (15): Jane Campion's magnificent tale of repression and desire in mid-19th century New Zealand. With Holly Hunter, Sam Neill and Harvey Keitel.
Barbican Ⓢ (071-638 8891) **Gate** Ⓢ (071-727 4043) **Lumiere** (071-836 0691) **MGMs**: **Fulham Road** (071-370 2636) **Tottenham Court Road** (071-636 6148) **Plaza** (071-497 9999) **Screen on Baker Street** (071-935 2772) **Screen on the Hill** Ⓢ (071-435 3366) **Warner** Ⓢ (071-439 0791) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (071-792 3332)

CURRENT

THE CEMENT GARDEN (18): Uneven adaptation of Ian McEwan's novel about children's games with sexuality and death. Andrew Birkin directs Andrew Robertson, Charlotte Gainsbourg.
Metro (071-437 0757) **MGMs**: **Chelsea** (071-352 5096) **Piccadilly** (071-437 3561) **Tottenham Court Road** (071-636 6148) **Renoir** (071-837 8402)

DRAGON: THE BRUCE LEE STORY (15): Inventive, action-packed biography of the martial arts legend, played by Jason Scott Lee (no relation). Rob Cohen directs.
Empire Ⓢ (071-437 1234/497 9999) Ⓢ **MGM Trocadero** Ⓢ (071-434 0031) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (071-792 3332)

HOMEWARD BOUND: THE INCREDIBLE JOURNEY (U): Two cats and a dog with human voices (Michael J. Fox, Sally Field, Don Ameche) trek home across the wilderness. Good for tots, toe-curling for adults.
MGM Oxford Street (071-636 0310) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098) **West End** (0426 915574)

LONDON FILM FESTIVAL: Robert Altman's *Short Cuts* is already sold out, but enough goodies remain in London's 37th celluloid bonanza, which begins on Nov 4 with Merchant Ivory's latest, *The Remains of the Day*. Films by Robert De Niro, Percy Adlon, the Taviani brothers, plus new talents from around the world.
National Film Theatre (071-928 3232), until Nov 21.

MR WONDERFUL (12): Electrical worker Mat Dillon tries to find his ex-wife a new man. Disarming candyfloss from director Anthony Minghella; with Annabella Sciorra.
MGMs: Fulham Road Ⓢ (071-370 2636) **Haymarket** (071-839 1527) **Tottenham Court Road** (071-636 6148) **Odeon Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098)

RAINING STONES (15): Wonderful slice of life on a Catholic council estate. Director Ken Loach blends biting humour and raw pain.
Camden Plaza (071-485 2443) **MGM Haymarket** (071-839 1527) **Odeon Kensington** (0426-914666)

THE SECRET GARDEN (U): Polished version of Frances Hodgson Burnett's classic by director Agnieszka Holland. With Kate Maberly, Maggie Smith.
MGMs: Baker Street (071-935 9772) **Fulham Road** (071-370 2636) **Shaftesbury Avenue** (071-836 6279) **Minema** (071-235 4225) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (071-792 3332) **Warner** (071-437 4343) Ⓢ

TRUE ROMANCE (18): Lovers on the run with a suitcase of cocaine. Smart lines, a strong cast, but excessively violent and empty. Tony Scott directs Christian Slater and Patricia Arquette.
MGM Chelsea (071-352 5096) **Notting Hill Coronet** Ⓢ (071-727 6705) **Odeons: Haymarket** (0426-915 353) **Kensington** (0426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098) **Warner** (071-437 4343) Ⓢ **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (071-792 3332)

MUSIC

CLASSICAL

GRIEG WEEKEND: The Barbican's Grieg weekend, marking the composer's 150th anniversary, continues today and tomorrow. Events from a wide-ranging programme include a free concert of Grieg's choral music, given at 1pm today in the Guildhall Music Hall by the Bergen Teacher Training College Youth Choir (the choir will also be performing in the Barbican foyer tomorrow from 6pm-7pm); a concert in St Giles given by the ensemble Bit 20 and featuring contemporary Norwegian music, including Arne Nordheim's *Magic Island* (tonight, 7.30pm); a lunchtime foyer concert of Norwegian jazz from the Arild Andersen Ensemble (tomorrow, 12.30pm-2.30pm); and a recital by the outstanding young pianist (and Grieg specialist) Leif Ove Andsnes (Barbican Hall, tomorrow, 4pm).
Barbican, Silk Street, London, EC2 (071-638 8891). Ⓢ



Seiji Ozawa conducts the Vienna Philharmonic

VIENNA PHILHARMONIC: One of the world's great orchestras performs the first of three London concerts this season, each to be given under a different conductor. Seiji Ozawa is on the podium on this occasion, for a programme of Haydn, Bartók and Dvořák.
Festival Hall, South Bank, London, SE1 (071-928 8800), Mon, 7.30pm. Ⓢ

ALFRED BRENDEL: The great pianist continues his exploration of the concerto repertoire, assisted by the Philharmonia under Esa-Pekka Salonen. Schoenberg's concerto is flanked by works by Haydn (Symphony No 53) and Stravinsky (*Petrushka*).
Festival Hall (as above), Thurs, 7.30pm. Ⓢ

OPERA

SALOME: André Engel's naturalistic production of Strauss's shocker is revived with Beverley Morgan in the title role and Neil Jenkins as Herod. Richard Armstrong conducts.
Theatre Royal, Hope Street, Glasgow (041-332 9000), tonight, Tues, Thurs, 7.15pm. Ⓢ

FIGARO'S WEDDING: Graham Vick's hugely entertaining production of Mozart's comedy returns to ENO, stylishly designed by Richard Hudson and performed in Jeremy Sams's witty translation.
Coliseum, St Martin's Lane, London, WC2 (071-836 3161), tonight, 6pm; Wed, Fri, 7pm. Ⓢ

EUGENE ONEGIN: This Covent Garden revival of Tchaikovsky's romantic tragedy is distinguished by its singing: Dmitri Hvorostovsky and Catherine Malfitano at the head of a strong cast, with Giuseppe Sabbatini performing Lensky for the first time. The producer is John Cox. Mark Ermler conducts.
Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, London, WC2 (071-240 1066/1911). Tues, 7pm. Ⓢ

ROCK

TAMMY WYNETTE: An opportunity to hear one of country and western's greats. Her new album of duets comes out next year.
Crawley, Leisure Centre Ⓢ (tickets. 0293 553636), tomorrow, 7.45pm. **Leicester**, De Montford Hall Ⓢ (0533 544444), Mon, 7pm. **Southport**, Theatre Ⓢ (0704 540404), Tues, 7.30pm. **Sunderland**, Empire Theatre Ⓢ (091-514 2517), Thurs, 7pm. **Carlisle**, Sands Centre Ⓢ (0228 25222), Fri, 8.45pm.

SALIF KEITA: The vibrant Malian singer returns to the UK.
London, The Grand (071-738 9000), Thurs, 7pm. **Bristol**, New Trinity Arts Centre Ⓢ (0272 550659), Fri, 8.30pm-3am.

DODGY: Expect timeless British guitar pop from this new band.
Polzeath, Carpenters Arms (0208 863579), Wed, 9.15pm. **Taunton**, Priory Social Club (0823 284656), Thurs, 7.30pm. **Leamington Spa**, Bath Place Community Venture (0926 338421), Fri, 8pm Ⓢ

JAZZ

JAN GARBAREK GROUP: Spare, haunting music is the hallmark of this singular Norwegian saxophonist.
Aberdeen, Music Hall Ⓢ (0224 641122), today, 8pm. **Glasgow**, City Hall Ⓢ (041-227 5511), tomorrow, 7.30pm. **Manchester**, Apollo Ⓢ (061-242 2560), Mon, 7pm. **Warwick**, Arts Centre Ⓢ (0203 524524), Wed, 7.30pm. **Brighton**, Salis Benny Theatre (0273 674357), Thurs, 7.30pm.

ORNETTE COLEMAN QUARTET: The pioneering saxophonist, who has worked with electric band Prime Time for the last 15 years, returns to acoustic music for this one-off gig.
Festival Hall, London, SE1 (071-928 8800), Fri, 7.30pm. Ⓢ

EXHIBITIONS

LONDON

ROGER HILTON/JULIAN OPIE: It is not easy to see a connection between the work of the St Ives pre-abstractionist Hilton, who died in 1975, and that of the 34-year-old sculptor Opie. Hilton's paintings at their best are powerfully coloured, their shapes evoking the perceptible world around him without recognisably recording it. Opie makes sculptures redolent of everyday objects, as well as painting motorway paintings so mechanical as to seem almost abstract. Perhaps the point of the juxtaposition is in the artists' radical diversity.
Hayward Gallery, South Bank, SE1 (071-261 0127), daily, 10am-6pm (Tues, Wed, to 8pm), opens Thurs to Feb 6. Ⓢ

CONTEMPORARY ARTS SOCIETY MARKET: The great hunting ground for collectors with advanced tastes and limited incomes, the annual CAS market reaches its tenth edition with a bumper selection, restocked daily, of more than 1,000 works by living artists.
Smith's Galleries, 25 Neal Street, WC2 (071-836 6252), Tues-Fri, 11am-7pm, Sat-Sun, 11am-5pm, opens Tues to Nov 7.

THE TURNER PRIZE: As usual, the shortlisted artists for this year's Turner Prize are given a joint exhibition at the Tate Gallery, running up to November 28 (the presentation is on November 23). The artists concerned are the minimalist painter Sean Scully, two installation artists, Hannah Collins and Vong Phaophanit, and the sculptor Rachel Whiteread, who makes plaster casts of anything from a kitchen sink to a whole house.
Tate Gallery, Millbank, SW1 (071-887 8008), Mon-Sat, 10am-5.50pm, Sun, 2-5.50pm, opens Wed to Nov 28. Ⓢ

DRAWINGS FROM THE J. PAUL GETTY MUSEUM: As well as its highly advertised activities in the acquisition of paintings and sculpture, since 1981 the Getty Museum has been using its vast financial resources to put together what is already one of the finest collections of drawings in the world. This lone show includes some 120 of them, ranging from Leonardo's *Three Sketches of a Child with a Lamb* to Rembrandt's *Woman with a Snake (Cleopatra)*. There are also important drawings by Cézanne and Van Gogh.
Royal Academy of Arts, Piccadilly, W1 (071-439 7438). Daily 10am-6pm, today until Jan 23. Sponsored by *The Times*. Ⓢ

WRITING ON THE WALL: The first show the Tate has ever devoted exclusively to the work of women artists in the collection. It consists of 20 works by 20 artists, selected by 20 women writers, and includes some surprises. Beryl Bainbridge, for instance, has chosen Lady Butler's *The Remnants of an Army*, not hung since the Fifties. There is an accompanying book.
Tate Gallery, Millbank, SW1 (071-887 8008) Mon-Sat, 10am-5.50pm, Sun, 2pm-5.50pm, until April 10. Ⓢ

REGIONAL

JOHN MOORES LIVERPOOL EXHIBITION 18: The most regularly distinguished of open competitive shows outside London, the John Moores boasts a past prize list which reads like a *Who's Who* of recent British painting. A useful barometer of tendencies, this year it highlights what seems to be a return to figurative painting.
Walker Art Gallery, William Brown Street, Liverpool (051-207 0001), Mon-Sat, 10am-5pm, Sun, midday-5pm, until Jan 23. Ⓢ

CANALETTO AND ENGLAND: Canaletto worked extensively in Italy for British patrons, and also spent nine years in this country between 1746 and 1755. This large show of paintings and drawings concentrates on these British connections.
Gas Hall, Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery, Chamberlain Square, Birmingham (021-235 1666). Daily, 10am-6pm (last admission 5.30pm), until Jan 9. Ⓢ

DANCE

THE SLEEPING BEAUTY: Ronald Hynd's new production for English National Ballet takes the Petipa classic back to its roots. Meanwhile, Birmingham Royal Ballet presents Peter Wright's fine staging.
Mayflower Theatre, Commercial Road, Southampton (0703 229771), today, 2.30pm, 7.30pm. **Hippodrome**, Hurst Street, Birmingham Ⓢ (021-622 7486), today, 2.30pm, 7.30pm, Mon, 7.30pm, Tues, 2.30pm.

SECOND STRIDE: A collaboration that promises much. Three choreographers, all working in different styles, combine on *Escape at Sea*, "a modernist fairytale of exile and unrequited love" inspired by stories of escape from Russia. Contributors include Second Stride's artistic director, Ian Spink; the Royal Ballet's Ashley Page; recent Royal Ballet School graduate Eyal Rubin; and composer Orlando Gough. Performers include the great Lynn Seymour.
Place Theatre, 17 Duke's Road, London, WC1 (071-387 0031), Fri-next Sat, 8pm.

NIGEL CHARNOCK: The choreographer's new work, *Original Sin*, pits man against woman in a brutal contest played out as physical theatre, musical comedy and cabaret as well as dance. Strictly "for adults only".
ICA, The Mall, London, SW1 (071-930 3647). Mon, Tues, 8pm

ROMEO AND JULIET: Darcey Bussell makes her debut as the tragic heroine in MacMillan's sweeping dance adaptation. Her partner is the Hungarian, Zoltan Solymosi. The performance is part of Covent Garden's new "Saturday Specials" scheme: lower prices for low-income groups.
Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, London, WC2 (071-240 1066), tonight, 7pm Ⓢ

NEW VIDEOS

THE JUNGLE BOOK (Buena Vista, U): Disney's most endearing cartoon of the 60s finally arrives on video: witty and tuneful, with a wonderful line-up of jungle characters inspired by Kipling. 1967

THE WATERDANCE (20 20 Vision, 15): Trouble and fun in a male rehabilitation ward, written by paraplegic Neal Jimenez. Candid, humorous, and sharply acted by Eric Stoltz, William Forsythe and Wesley Snipes. 1992

LOVE FIELD (Columbia Tri-Star, 15): Jonathan Kaplan's endearing romantic oddity about a bored Dallas housewife with a Jackie Kennedy obsession, on a voyage of discovery in 1963. Michelle Pfeiffer won a prize at the Berlin Film Festival for her sweet performance, though that cut no ice with the British distributors, who have inexplicably released the film straight to video. 1992

BOOKINGS

CHRISTMAS TREATS FOR CHILDREN AT THE ROYAL OPERA HOUSE: A return performance for the hugely successful *Tales of Beatrix Potter*, Frederick Ashton's choreography for the film version brought to life in Anthony Dowell's charming production. Costumes by Christine Edzard and masks by Rostislav Doboujinsky. The delightful classic is paired with *Ballet Imperial*, billed as the quintessence of classical ballet with sets based on Eugene Berman's 1950s designs. Nov 20, 26, 29, Dec 8, 14, 15, 21, 29, 30, Jan 4, 8. Matinee, Nov 20. Special matinees of *Beatrix Potter* only: Dec 21, 22, 29, Jan 8. Peter Wright's ever popular production of *The Nutcracker* starts its annual run on Dec 17. Further performances Dec 20, 22, 23, 27, 28, 31, Jan 3, 5, 10. Matinees: Dec 18, 23, 27 and Jan 3.
Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, London WC2 (071-240 1066/1911) Ⓢ. Bookings now open.

Film: Geoff Brown; **Theatre**: Jeremy Kingston; **Classical Music and Opera**: Gwen Hughes; **Rock and Jazz**: Stephanie Osborne; **Dance**: Debra Craine; **Exhibitions**: John Russell Taylor; **New Videos**: Geoff Brown; **Bookings**: Kris Anderson

MY PERFECT WEEKEND

PAUL SMITH

Fashion designer



Where would you go?
Tuscany, because I have a house there. I travel round the world for seven months of the year doing fashion shows, buying fabric and seeing my shops, so when I have a break I want it to be trouble-free. Obviously your own house is trouble-free because everything you need is there and you don't have to talk to anybody.

How would you get there?
By plane and then in my Range Rover (which I leave at Pisa airport).

Where would you stay?
At my old farmhouse near Lucca. I've got 12 acres of nothingness in the middle of a valley. When I bought the house it was a complete wreck: the roof had caved in, there was no water, no electricity, no sewerage, no road to get there. I spent a year and a half restoring the house and have been using it for the last seven years.

Who would be your perfect companion?
Pauline — we've been living together for 25 years.

What essential piece of clothing or kit would you take?
T-shirts and shorts. I always wear my own designs — not because I don't like other people's clothes, but because mine are free.

What medicines would accompany you?
Sun cream — I only use the house in summer.

What would you eat?
Pasta and "hedge" (my nickname for salad), and fresh eggs, potatoes and chickens given by my kind Italian neighbour.

What would you drink?
Local red and white wine. Very local in fact, the grapes are grown in the field next to my house and the wine is bottled nearby.

What books would you read?
None. I would be too busy swimming in my pool, walking, cycling, chatting, eating and taking photographs of anything.

What music would you listen to?
Van Morrison or opera.

What luxury would you take?
It is already there — linen sheets on the bed.

What piece of art would you like to have there?
Pauline is a painter and so there are lots around the house already.

Who would be your least welcome guest?
Anyone who wants to talk about fashion.

Which newspapers would you read?
None — I would cut myself off from the rest of the world.

What three things would you leave behind?
A suit, socks, and my diary.

What three things would you most like to do?
1. Have dinner in Lerici, a beautiful seaside town. My house is very remote, so when I want my shot of boutiques I go to Lerici, which is an hour away. 2. Go to the opera at Lake Puccini, where Puccini's house is. Every year — except for this year because of the recession — a Puccini opera is performed in a makeshift theatre right on the lake. 3. Alternatively, nothing at all.

To whom would you send a postcard?
Mum and dad — I send them a postcard from everywhere I go. Mum mentioned recently that she has 370 of them.

What souvenir would you bring home?
Lucca olive oil, which is considered the best in the world.

What would you like to find when you get home?
No problems.

Interview by Rosanna Greenstreet

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 18

SAXICOLOUS
(b) Growing on rocks, botanical, from the Latin *saxum* a rock + *colere* to inhabit, *saxicoline* is the fine distinction for "living among rocks".

SCUMBLE
(c) To soften or render less brilliant the colours in a portion of a picture by overlaying with a thin coat of opaque or semi-opaque colour, to spread or drive a colour thinly over a portion of a picture in order to soften hard lines or blend the tints. picture in order to soften hard lines or blend the tints. frequentative, perhaps from *scum*: "If ground colours are to be scumbled over they ought not to be full of strong and deep brush-marks."

FERETORY
(c) A portable shrine carried in processions, often made of or adorned with costly materials, in which were deposited the remains or relics of saints, ultimately a perversion by assimilation of the Greek *pheretron* from *pherein* to carry.

GREMIAL
(b) Of or pertaining to the bosom or lap (why both? They are different in English), and so of an intimate friend, from the Latin *gremium* a bosom or lap; John Donne, sermon, 1631: "Centricall Fold, visceral Gold, gremiall Gold, Gold in the Matrice and womb of God."

THE TIMES INVITES READERS TO A PRIVATE VIEWING AT THE ROYAL ACADEMY

Enjoy the Getty treasures

View magnificent drawings, from Leonardo to Van Gogh, at leisure.
Wine, canapés and free gifts

THE most important event of the autumn-winter season at the Royal Academy is the exhibition of drawings from the J. Paul Getty Museum at Malibu, California.

To mark the event, which is being supported by *The Times*, readers are invited to a private viewing at the academy in Piccadilly, London, on Wednesday, November 24, from 6.30-9pm.

One hundred and twenty superb drawings, matchless for their virtuosity and ageless beauty, will be on show.

They include works from the Italian, Dutch, French, Spanish and German schools, many of them by the greatest masters of each school — including Mantegna, Leonardo, Raphael, Titian, Bernini, Battista, Tiepolo, El Greco, Goya, Holbein, Dürer, Balen, Cézanne, Rembrandt and Van Dyck.

Some of the works are preliminary studies for paintings, and include Leonardo's *Three Sketches of a Child with a Lamb* and Raphael's *Studies for the Disputa*.

Invitations to the private viewing cost £10, and during this special evening, canapés and wine by Baron Philippe de Rothschild will be served.

Each guest will also receive, free, an exhibition catalogue worth £4.95, one of the sought-after souvenir posters worth £4.95, and a discount of 10 per cent off merchandise on sale at the academy shop (excluding books and catalogues).

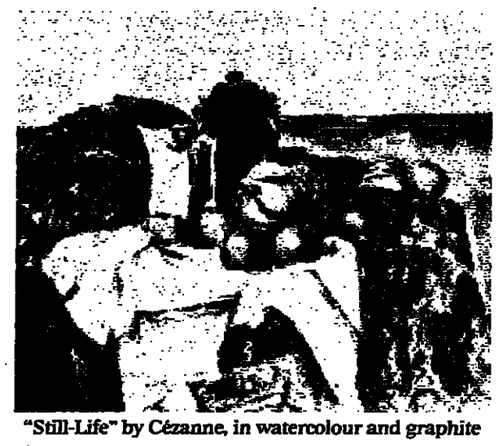




Top: detail from Van Gogh's brown ink and chalk "Joseph Roulin". Above: the younger Holbein's black ink and chalk "Scholar or Cleric"

For readers who are unable to attend the private viewing, *The Times* is pleased to offer three money-saving vouchers (see right) for use during the exhibition, which will be open to the public from today until January 23 (daily, including weekends, from 10am to 6pm, except Dec 24, 25 and 26).

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"Still-Life" by Cézanne, in watercolour and graphite

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All the school's a stage

There is no shortage of talent and energy among youngsters in the 11 shows competing in the national music theatre awards final, says **Heather Neill**


STEPHEN MARKESON

Pupils at Lawrence Sheriff School run through *Polo and the Khan*, an epic tale of Marco Polo's travels originally performed by people from 19 different schools

Twenty-two witches from Worthing, two Harrovian angels, assorted Tartars from Rugby and Captain Cook will be among those arriving at the Queen Elizabeth Hall, on London's South Bank, on Monday for the finals of the Barclays Music Theatre Awards.

Chosen from more than 200 entries from schools and community youth groups all over the country, the 11 finalists will compete in two categories: junior (up to age 13) and senior (up to 19) for prizes worth £7,000 for performance and production. Bob Holness (of TV's *Blockbusters*) will be in charge of proceedings and the judging panel will include the composers Richard Stilgoe and Howard Blake, actress Denise Coffey and director Wendy Toye.

Barclays Bank became involved in this big undertaking, to encourage new music theatre talent, in 1987. Larry Westland, businessman and champion of young people's arts who is the prime mover behind the more venerable Schools Proms, approached Barclays looking for another Prom sponsor. Told that Barclays preferred to be sole funders, he invented this new festival on the spot.

Six years later, it is thoroughly established with Trevor Nunn, its patron, considering the 1993 entries "more varied, adventurous and stimulating than ever". He regards the awards as "vital for the future development of the country's musical theatre".

Most of the competitors, however, will be thinking of the event as an adventure in its own right. Nevertheless, a few have already had a taste of the big time.

Seventeen-year-old Steven Kynman provides the disfiguring makeup for the heroine of the play in which he also has a substantial part, *Sanctus*, performed by the Northern Theatre Company from Hull. Adept at inventing animatronics, he sent a remote-controlled head (Audrey, from *Little Shop of Horrors*) to Steven Spielberg. Eighteen months later a call came and Steven has now spent two weeks working on the film of *The Flintstones*.

Sanctus provides a different challenge. Its author, Thom Strid, described it as a "black comedy with lots of laughs", which sounds a tall order as it mixes mass religion on satellite TV with sexual obsession.

And at Rickmansworth Masonic Junior School in Hertfordshire many of the 43 eight- to 11-year-old performers are veterans of the West End production of *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*. This time they are involved in a Victorian moral tale, *The Factory Children*. *Joseph* will be present too, though, performed by 50 six- to 13-year-olds from Bradford, members of Stage 84.

Among those competing with *The Factory Children* and *Sanctus* for the £250 *Times Educational Supplement* Award for Best Original Work will be *Polo and the Khan* performed by the Young East Warwickshire Theatre (YEWTH), based in Rugby. This epic tale of Marco Polo's travels — originally performed by representatives of 19 schools with a cast of more than 100 and an orchestra big enough to grace Drury Lane — is the brainchild of Rex Pogson, head of Lawrence Sheriff School, Rugby, with music by Graham Westcott.

It has been difficult to reduce something of "*Les Mis* dimensions" to 15 minutes, but Pogson and Val Brodie, his music director, have tried to maintain the spirit of the original and the theme, building bridges. More than 40 of the original cast will be going to London.

Like all the other finalists, YEWTH have to revive a show performed and adjudicated some months ago. But nobody is complaining. In the school hall at Lawrence Sheriff two weeks before the trek to London, Rex Pogson and Val Brodie were shouting "smile" at the ranks of singing Venetians, Tartars and peasants in tones that tipped up lips in a flash.

There are two other original shows among the under-13s. *Sea Saga II* from Ashfield Junior School in Workington has 52 performers tackling a serious and locally contentious subject, the pollution of the environment around Sellafield, told "through the eyes of Sid the Hermit and the local mutants".

In Derbyshire, the entire school roll of 45 pupils at Ashbourne Preu School undertakes a musical voyage, *All Aboard*, with Captain Cook — visiting Australia, Hawaii and both Poles. No one could accuse the under-13s of lack of ambition. There are more conventional choices among the seniors: *My Fair Lady* from Rydens School, Walton-on-Thames; *The Boyfriend* from the Youth Drama Factory in Gloucester; and *Half a Sixpence* from Woking College, Surrey, which seems to have produced its own "Mr Showbusiness". Stewart Nicholls, 17, who plays Kipps, is also responsible for production, direction and choreography.

The Rattigan Society at Harrow School offers 40 performers (including girls from the Krystal Arts Dance and Theatre School) in a new work, "a modern morality play" called *Ain't Life Good*. Taking its inspiration from the film *It's A Wonderful Life*, it raises philosophical questions about free will and divine (or rather angelic) intervention by chronicling a young man's moral decisions.

And the witches? JSS Ensemble in Worthing have designed a new piece of music drama, *Witch*, based on the witches' chorus from Verdi's *Macbeth*. Twenty-two of them will be teasing and tormenting the Thane. All in all, there should be plenty of magic, but practicalities are not forgotten. Rex Pogson's cast has been told to look out Eastern slippers and strappy sandals just in case the QEH stage is "unfit for human foot".

THEATRE: Pinter's elegant, courteous struggle for domination; and Fay Weldon's hard-hitting social satire on the uncaringness of the caring

Hunters with words

Old Times
Birmingham Repertory Theatre


Carol Royle as the wife Kate, blithely self-absorbed

COMING to this play again after many years, taking in the coolly elegant setting, the two rooms in the converted farmhouse, sitting room and bedroom, each furnished as sparely as Pinter's stage-direction indicates. Listening again to the measured, cultivated language, spoken for the most part courteously, and with pauses in between, by a husband, a wife and the wife's friend about events 20 years ago that may or may not have occurred; absorbing the almost-familiar sights and sounds of this fascinating play stirs memories of a cult film released around the same time, perhaps a little earlier, where again what the characters recollect may not have occurred.

Pacing the endless corridors and ornate hotel salons in *Last Year at Marienbad* go another husband, wife and interloper. In the film, the intruder is a man and not a girlfriend, but again a struggle for domination is courteously, elegantly fought, with words for weapons, and pauses in between.

But where the cinema can relatively easily combine claustrophobia with suspense, this is not so simply achieved on the stage. Pinter does it with words, almost unaided by movement. Deeley, Kate and Anna do move, pour brandy, open the cigarette box, circle the white sofas, but the sequence of moves at the end of the play has been mysteriously forseen and described earlier.

Kate, the wife, smiles, says little, or gives answers that call forth another question. Carol Royle's romantic stillness conveys the self-absorption that is indifferent to her effect upon others. No man is an island, perhaps, but this woman is, entire unto herself.

The battle raging over her may be to establish, without directly enquiring, and without directly disclosing, what influence Anna exerted over Kate when they were secretaries all those years ago. It may be that Kate and Anna metaphorically express complementary aspects of a woman, the desired one and the one scheming to be desired. Deeley's anxiety is to discover to what degree he has been the hunter, what the hunted.

Bill Alexander's direction ably steers the cast towards the unsettling climaxes that are so unexpectedly arrived at. Having Kate kneel in front of her husband, to tell him she fell in love with him (note past tense) is an electric moment.

Most of the dialogue is spoken by Estelle Kohler, urgent, polite, steely, and Tim Pigott-Smith, coarsening his speech as he feels himself falling from favour; but the wife, the enigmatic female, is the focus of their conflict. "She lacks curiosity," says Deeley. "Perhaps she's happy," says Anna. Perhaps she is.

JEREMY KINGSTON

Home bitter home

Mr Director
Orange Tree, Richmond

FAY Weldon takes a subject from the front pages of the media and boldly puts it on stage. *Mr Director* may be fictional, but it is rooted in the kind of hard facts which theatre normally leaves to television documentaries.

Fourteen-year-old Debbie claims that the adults in charge at the children's home from which she repeatedly absconds have sexually abused her. She is, moreover, being subjected to solitary confinement. The isolation unit in which she is incarcerated evokes the atrocities of "pin down" techniques, even if the computer-controlled padded cell is unconvincing.

Meanwhile, Stephen, an investigative journalist, is after the director, Manny. The home is plagued by the threat of cuts, even though the recession is apparently over. *Mr Director* is astoundingly up to the minute — astoundingly because Weldon actually wrote this play for the Orange Tree in 1978. Its topicality merits this second staging. Director Michael Elwyn works scenes with finesse and suggests the oppressive atmosphere of surveillance by using television monitors.

The script has its flaws. Debbie's soliloquies can appear as the playwright's device for filling in the audience on the protagonist's bleak life history. Naomi Buch, playing Marion (an unmerciful matron) perhaps fails to bring out Weldon's satire. At points, the writer's agenda — an exposé of the uncaringness of carers — is obtrusive. However, the ethical complexity of the piece is cumulative and ultimately impressive.

There are many funny, emotionally electric scenes here. Keith Bartlett (Harry, a carer), lovable but slightly nasty, tries to seduce Marion while inspecting her varicose vein. Fiona Mollison (Manny's wife) is hilariously but potently livid. Paul Shelley is perfect as Manny, cold under the cuddly exterior and disarming wittiness. And young Clare Woodgate, hyperventilating with fear but persistently ferocious, has great promise.

KATE BASSETT



OPERA: A potent *Salome* at Glasgow's Theatre Royal

Bloodletting by moonlight

THE MOON is almost full in Glasgow, and blood congeals on the stage. *Salome* is in town. Scottish Opera is reviving Richard Strauss's work in the production first seen five years ago at Welsh National Opera. It is as potent as ever.

Rennie Wright, recreating André Engel's original concept, keeps alive the tackiness and voyeurism which co-exists with its psychological and emotional seriousness. Nick Rieti's dark, Oriental latticework of a design, with moonlight dappling on to dresscoat, newspaper and cigarette, reminds us that this is the far Arabia which stole away the wits of the 19th century, through the French Orientalists and symbolists to Oscar Wilde and on to Strauss.

Physical movement is restrained, weighed down by the dull ache of decadence: the ear, undistracted, is cunningly drawn to the movement of the score in all its minute characterisation, its tense trilling and its multiple harmonics. This is the third opera to be conducted by Richard Armstrong in his opening season as music director, and its vibrant musical life confirms the wisdom of the appointment.

The orchestral might is important, as the cast is good but not outstanding. Salome is played by Penelope Chalmers, making her house debut as an impetuous redhead, as volatile as she is spoilt. Her voice has all the stamina it needs (she has been a Valkyrie in her time), if not the light, silvery timbre Strauss wanted for this moon-child.

Both she and Jokanaan are locked inside their own respective visions. Salome fails even to notice the moment of the self-inflicted death of Narraboth: Jokanaan appears to see nothing physical at all. Moving with the lumbering intensity of one who could be physically blind, James Johnson's stage presence is as powerful as his voice. And there is something in him, too, that could exist in Vikram Seth's San Francisco: was he *really* chewing gum during the curtain calls?


Chalmers: spoilt Salome

Richard Coxon's hapless Narraboth makes a vivid mark; but the most complete performances come from the Herod of Neil Jenkins, and the Herodias of Elizabeth Vaughan. Jenkins bends every note, every phrase, through seemingly infinite shades of bluster, insecurity and insinuation. This man believes in miracles, too. Herodias, though, believes nothing; and the stubborn and vengeful nihilism conveyed by Vaughan (at present also a formidable Kabanicha in the company's *Katya*) has a magnificence all its own.

HILARY FINCH

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The cold wind of Henze's suffering

CLASSICAL RECORDS

This disc of a live performance of **Hans Werner Henze**'s Seventh Symphony, given in Birmingham's Symphony Hall last year by Simon Rattle and the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra (EMI CDC 754762 2), is highly significant and vastly welcome.

Few would argue about Henze's status as one of the most important composers alive. He has always seemed at ease with his symphonic inheritance, reshaping and extending the form rather than choosing to treat it as dead. Now, in fact, there are eight symphonies, the latest being given its world premiere in the United States this month.

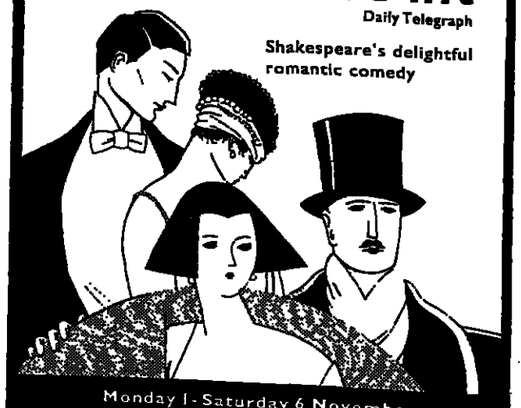
The Seventh Symphony is a hugely powerful piece. Its first movement concentrates on building up a complex web of counterpoint from what seems at first innocuous abstraction to a frightening ruthlessness. Then, the slow movement, dark and despairing, introduces the tormented and remorseless cacophony of the scherzo. This movement reflects Henze's preoccupation with the sufferings of the poet, Hölderlin, an outsider incarcerated and tortured as a madman.

The work has Mahlerian resonances, and in the finale these allusions become more blatant. A richly, darkly scored A minor chord signifies, as so often in Henze's music, a concentration of tragic emotion. Stunningly beautiful orchestral textures and distanced brass fanfares add to the Mahlerian flavour. A late autumnal mist nevertheless hangs in the air, at once beautiful, bleak and sad, as befits the text of the Hölderlin poem of which this movement is an instrumental setting: "The walls stand/speechless and cold, in the wind/the flags are jangling".

The disc also includes the substantial *Barcarola per grande orchestra*, "water music", composed in 1979 in the form of a dramatic overture-cum-variations. The CBSO's full-blooded performances of both works are just as thrilling and moving on disc — if you and your neighbours are prepared for the wide dynamic range — as in the concert hall.

STEPHEN PETTITT

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Saturday 30 October 7.30 pm — BORODIN QUARTET. Tchaikovsky Festival. Tchaikovsky: String Quartet Movement in B flat (1865); Quartet No.1 in D Op.11; Borodin: Quartet No.1 in C minor Op.51 No.1 £20, £16, £12, £10 HoM

Sunday 31 October 11.30 am NB: starting time — ORCHESTRA OF THE AGE OF ENLIGHTENMENT. Sunday Morning Coffee Concert. JS Bach: Orchestral Suite No.2; Ricercar in 3 parts; Ricercar in 6 parts; Brandenburg Concerto No.5. £9 including programme and coffee/sherry/juice

Sunday 31 October 7.00 pm NB: starting time — ELYSIAN WIND QUINTET. Kalish Bragg fl, Chris O'Neal ob, Julian Farrell clr, Phillip Eastop hn, Richard Skinner bsn. 20th Anniversary Concert. Holst: Wind Quintet Op.14; P McGann: Elysian Dances (world prem); Ligeti: 6 Bagatelles; 10 Pieces; Nielsen: Wind Quintet Op.43. £9.00, £7.50, £6.00, £4.50 Elysian Wind Quintet

Monday 1 November 7.30 pm — CONCERT CANCELLED DUE TO INDISPOSITION VICTORIA DE LOS ANGELES soprano. 70th Birthday Concert. Geoffrey Parsons piano. ClarionSeven Messe/Jane Grey

Tuesday 2 November 1.05 pm NB: starting time — IAN BOSTRIDGE tenor, ANDREW WEST piano. Lunchtime Concert. Schubert: Das Geheimnis; Die Götter Griechenlands; Gruppe aus dem Tartarus; Elysium; An den Frühling; Schäfers Klagelied; Der Messensohn; An den Mond; An Schwager Kronos; An die Entfernte; Erlkönig £9 (cons £7) YCAT

Tuesday 2 November 7.30 pm — A MUSICAL TRIBUTE TO THE MEMORY OF BASIL DOUGLAS. Victoria de los Angeles, Graham Johnson, Paco Peña, Vlado Perlemuter, Trevor Pinnock and The English Concert. Falla, Padrell, Granados, Bach, Ravel and Traditional Flamenco Music. £20, £16, £12, £10 Proceeds to Imperial Cancer Research Fund

Wednesday 3 November 7.30 pm — BORODIN QUARTET. Tchaikovsky Festival. Brahms: String Quartet No.2 in A minor Op.51 No.2 Tchaikovsky: Quartet No.2 in F minor Op.22 £20, £16, £12, £10 HoM

Thursday 4 November 7.30 pm — MIKHAIL PLETNEV piano. Tchaikovsky Festival. Mozart: Variations in F K54; Adagio in B minor K540; Sonata in G K283. Tchaikovsky: The Seasons Op.37b £15.00, £12.50, £10.00, £7.50 HoM

Friday 5 November 7.30 pm — ANI SIRKSIAN violin, JOHN LENEHAN piano. Beethoven: Sonata in D Op.12 No.1; Elgar: Sonata in E minor Op.82; Prokofiev: Solo Sonata Op.115; Bloch: Baal shem; Rawsthorne: Theme. £10, £9, £8, £4 Erica Goddard

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Tomor 31 Oct 4.00pm — LEIF OVE ANDSNES piano Barbican Celebrity Recitals Series. Liszt Ballade No.2 Grieg Albumblatte Op 28, No.4 Three Lyric Pieces from Op 43 Nos 1,3 & 6 and Op.54 Nos 3 & 5 Chopin Sonata No.3 £14 £10 £6 Barbican Centre

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Entertainments also appear on page 6

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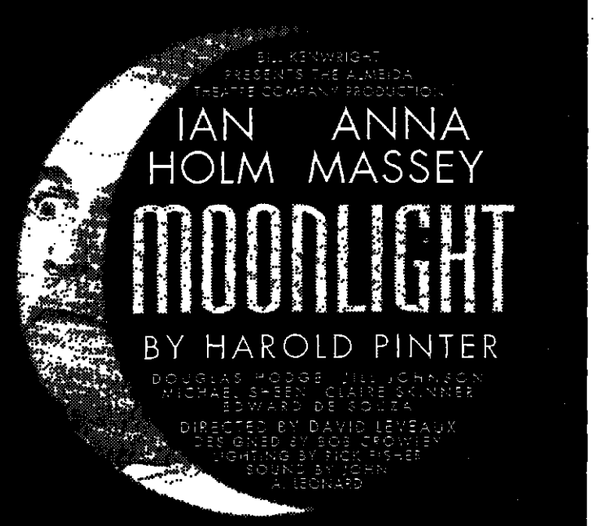
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THE ROYAL BALLET Tom'l (Saturday Special: low price performance for low income groups only) 7.00 Romeo and Juliet.
THE ROYAL OPERA Mon 7.00 Mithridate, re di Ponto.

Putting in some 'face time' with a crashing boar



If you were in my position, you too would agree that the outlook is a black one. This is not depressive talk, but a fact. From the kitchen I can see across the yard to our pigsties.

In one is the vastly pregnant Phoebe, a black sow, who is cunning enough to stand on tip-toes on the trough and poke her black snout over the wall. I think militarists call it over-the-horizon radar: her saucer-sized snout, which I detect twitching from here, is as sensitive as anything in Jane's military compendia. I only have to *think* about peeling a potato and, if the wind is in the right direction, cries of anticipation rend the air. "Peelings, peelings!" she pleads.

But it is in the other sty that our problem lies. We have bought a Large Black boar. Actually, he is a Very Small Black boar; for he is a mere three months old. But he will flourish into a strapping lad by next spring and then I can launch him on his career as the local gigolo, and by the time he has reached full roué status, he will have a massive quality that would shock even the Garrick dining-room.

This is the root of the problem. A boar can be a pretty frightening thing anyway, and tales of serious accidents are legion: it is therefore essential that by the time the hormones start to pump through him he is so easily handled that I would not hesitate to take him for a walk through town.

We have done it with all our other pigs and it has paid off handsomely. Phoebe will follow any bucket, even to the ends of the earth, and I would have no hesitation about taking Alice to a palace garden party, providing swill was on the menu. But our baby black boar is going to take a little more taming.

For a start, he has come up from deepest Devon and hardly knows these East Anglian ways. The food is funny, too. He has been used to processed pig nuts and now has to face the barley-based slop which we concoct. It is like being taken off cream crackers and put on to soup. I am pleased to say that he is beginning to get the hang of it.

That leaves the question of his tameness, and I fear the only solution is going to be a time-consuming one. We had a friend down from London recently who works in an office which no doubt has its complement of porky bores.



It has no windows, conditioned air, and computer screens — intensive pigs will recognise this as the sort of place in which they spend their miserable lives. She told me the latest management buzz-word was "face time". You do not go to private meetings any more; you have face time with each other.

So that is what I am doing now: chatting to my newly-arrived pig, giving him apples and generally encouraging him to feel part of the farm. Snout time. The benefit of your experience would be much appreciated.

This morning I managed to stroke him without having him flee to the darkest corner of the sty. If this management strategy fails, I consider it your duty to act as consultants, and look forward to your experiences.

The other problem I must solve is his name; and here we must tread carefully into muddy territory. I am well aware that a black pig owner was recently condemned for naming his sow Oprah, after the American television star. As both are broad, handsome and black, it seemed appropriate to me; but I live in something of a backwater where the tide of political correctness has yet to flow, and so those who know anything of the affection that goes into the naming of a much-loved pig could understand why there was nothing offensive in the name.

Here I have a confession to make: we have a young sow here called Thora. Some months ago Dame Thora Hird came filming here and we were bowled over by her. As a tribute, we named one of our much-loved pigs after her. I did not ask permission but knowing her wild Lancashire sense of humour, I am sure that she would surely be flattered. The pig does not seem to mind either.

But with the Oprah incident in my mind, I will not even hint at the names that have been flashing through my mind for our young boar.

Let it be sufficient to say that he has been called Murphy: simply because he is black and stout. My only hope is that he does not live up to his name entirely; we want no hint of bitterness in him when he grows up to be a big boy.

MARY EVANS PICTURE LIBRARY

Power to the people with water wheels

Nick Nuttall reports on an encouraging renewal of interest in water as a source of energy — on scales both large and small



A print dated 1805 shows the power of a water wheel in action: now they may turn full circle in Britain's history

Over the urban sprawl of Wandsworth in southwest London, the faint chimes of a liberty bell will soon begin ringing out.

At the mouth of the River Wandle, a once economically important river now reduced to an open sewer, a unique energy and environment experiment is taking shape. Orchestrated by Platform, an alliance of artists, scientists and writers, and with help from Intermediate Technology, a developing world charity, water power is returning to an area which in the 19th century boasted some of the most powerful water wheels in the world.

The bell, suspended on a gantry where the Wandle dribbles over a weir into the Thames, will ring out four times a day when the tiny, three-kilowatt turbine is started up on November 9.

The project is part of a bigger plan to spur Londoners into rediscovering their forgotten rivers, including the Fleet and the Effra. Micro-hydro electric schemes are now common in developing countries, but this is thought to be the first in a British inner city. Dan Gretton of Platform says next year the electricity generated will be used at nearby St Joseph's primary school. "It is the quality of the electricity that matters," he says.



Jim Arnold

For Jim Arnold, director of the New Lanark Conservation Trust, quantity and quality go hand in hand. Here, once the centre of a huge cotton spinning empire, plans have been laid to tap the upper reaches of the River Clyde.

The return of commercial water power comes nearly two centuries after the first of 12 giant water wheels were installed to turn fibres into fabric.

The turbine should produce up to 380 kilowatts of electricity, which will be sold into the national grid. Four kilowatts is enough to power a home, so 380 kilowatts could energise around 100 homes. Mr Arnold says eventually the power will heat and light a 60-bedroom hotel being planned near by.

The two projects highlight how water power, lodged in the popular consciousness as part of a bygone age of rustic flour mills and the early industrial revolution, is staging a comeback.

▸ A small but growing band of landowners, home-owners and specialist groups are abandoning diesel generators and their dependence on conventional electricity by installing tiny water turbines on rivers, streams and weirs.

Unlike the giant Scottish and Welsh hydro projects of the postwar era, these smaller systems do not damage valleys and glens by damming waterways. Instead they siphon off some of the river power into a turbine, returning the water after the energy has been removed.

Meanwhile academics and engineering companies are busy developing exotic ocean-going machines with suitably aquatic names such as Frog, Clam, Duck and Osprey. These aim to tap the powerful tides, currents and waves which ebb, race and pound round the British Isles.

Triggering the renaissance are fears that traditional electricity generation, with its dependence on fuels such as oil and coal, could be leading the planet into a globally warmed era of erratic weather systems.

Advances in aerospace and offshore engineering are also making small-scale water power practical and cheaper.

Even quite small falls of water of just a few metres can now be tapped, opening up dozens of potential sites in Britain. The government is already offering modest financial incentives for electricity companies to buy energy from small-scale water schemes, under a levy called the Non-Fossil Fuel Obligation.

The exact number of river and stream-based projects emerging is unknown. But Rupert Armstrong-Evans, who runs a hydro company called Power Stream at Trebullett in Cornwall, estimates there are between 200 and 300 tiny water power systems, many installed in the past few years. About 100 bigger schemes are also in operation, ranging from 30 kilowatts to one megawatt (1,000 kilowatts); some of these feed electricity to the national grid.

Commander George Chapman of the National Association of Water Power Users says: "Reputedly there were 20,000 water mills in England and Wales in the 1800s. Quite a lot of these sites remain."

While the electricity potential may be modest, estimates suggest a total of up to 200 megawatts — or a half of one per cent of the nation's needs. The impact on local communities can be substantial. Niall Wright of Edinburgh Hydro Systems, which is involved in the Clyde project, says some hard-pressed estate owners believe selling electricity from water power may be the key to tilting their operations into profit.

"The profits may help to employ a few more people on the estate," he says. "This may mean the difference between the local shop, bus service and village school closing, or remaining open."

While micro-hydroelectricity may now make technical and economic sense, the same cannot yet be said for ocean-based schemes, although the rewards for the economy and the environment could eventually be significant.

On the shores of Loch Linne, near Fort William, engineers will in November lower a device dubbed a tidal mill into the icy waters. Under the scheme, being orchestrated by IT Power of Eversley, Hampshire, with backing from firms such as Scottish Nuclear, the mill will float with its aeroplane-style propeller facing towards the natural forces spilling through the Corran Narrows.

If this device fulfils its promise, Britain may be on the way to generating up to a fifth of its electricity from tidal currents.

A recent government study concluded that the Pentland Firth alone, where currents can race at up to 12 miles an hour, could provide three times as much electricity as Britain's large, hydro-electric schemes.

The electricity could cost around 10 pence a unit. But Peter Fraenkel of IT Power says costs could halve with mass production.

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

This position is a variation from the game Short - Kasparov, Times World Championship, game 10. It appears that White's attack has burnt out, but he has a final, winning trick up his sleeve. Can you spot it?



Send your answers on a postcard with your name and address to: *The Times*, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN. The first three correct answers drawn on Thursday will win a British Chess Magazine book. The answer will be published next Saturday. Solution to last Saturday's competition: 1 Rxe6+.

Last week's winners are: P T Sheridan, Rowan House, Alder Road, Sidcup, Kent; P D Amer, Arran Place, Joppa, Edinburgh; D Easy, Sherwood Avenue, Potters Bar.

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

SAXICOLOUS
a. A geology student
b. Growing on rocks
c. Pertaining to the Saxon shore

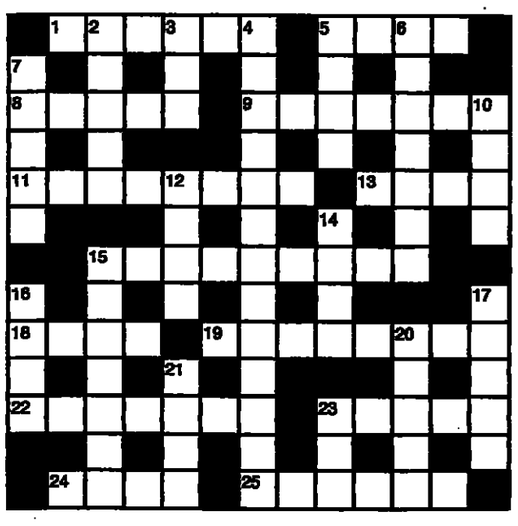
SCUMBLE
a. To limp on crutches
b. Pantry left-overs
c. To overlay paint

FERETORY
a. Inclining to Conservatism
b. A carrying box for ferrets
c. A portable shrine

GREMIAL
a. Revolutionary month
b. Pertaining to the lap
c. Jovial and genial

Answers on page 15

CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 3239



ACROSS
1 Six foot depth (6)
5 Restrain (4)
8 Rhythmic jazz (5)
9 Overwhelm and ruin (7)
11 Irritable (8)
13 Abrupt movement (4)
15 Female wizard (9)
18 Special period (4)
19 Feverish rash disease (8)
22 1940 evacuation port (7)
23 Malay chewing nut (5)
24 June 6, 1944 (1,3)
25 Monarch's stand-in (6)

DOWN
2 Milling shaft (5)
3 Jump (3)
4 Trouble stirrer (8,5)
5 Closed (4)
6 Verbalise (7)
7 Deep chasm (5)
10 Scraper (4)
12 Stage act (4)
14 Repast (4)
15 Scorned (7)
16 Discard (4)
17 Rejoice (5)
20 Adopt insincerely (3,2)
21 Slender and strong (4)
23 Irritate (3)

SOLUTION TO NO 3238

ACROSS: 1 Musee d'Orsay 9 Amiable 10 Scalp 11 Tap 13 Item 16 Omen 17 Ravine 18 Toss 20 Marc 21 Collie 22 Reef 23 Term 25 Sew 28 Unity 29 Oppidan 30 Black market

DOWN: 2 Unite 3 Elbe 4 Diet 5 Rasp 6 Anaemia 7 Sagittarius 8 Up and coming 12 Arnold 14 Mrs 15 Evzone 19 Special 20 Met 24 Endue 25 Sync 26 Worm 27 Spar

CROSSWORD ENTHUSIASTS: The Times Concise Crosswords — Books 1 & 2 £5.25 each. Books 3 & 4 £4.25 each. **The Times Jumbo Crosswords** — Book 1 £4.99, Book 2 £5.99. Concise Book 1 £5.99. **The Times Crosswords** — Books 1, 7, 14, 15 & 16 £4.25 each; Books 2 to 13 (excl. 7) £4.74 each. **The Sunday Times Crosswords** — Books 1 to 10 £4.74 each except Books 5, 9 and 11 £4.25 each. Concise Books 1 & 2 £4.25 each. Prices inc p&p (UK). Cheques to *Aksen Ltd*, 51 Manor Lane, London SE13 5QW. Returns delivery. Tel 081-852 4575 (24 hrs). No credit cards.

Feather report

Ducking and diving



Jacques

Native tufted ducks will often mate with the winter migrants

Riding out on the water on many lakes and ponds now is a little black-and-white duck. The patch of white plumage abuts the water along the duck's flanks; sometimes the bird rolls over and shows it has a whole gleaming white underside. If you get closer, you can see it has a short black pigtail and bright yellow eyes.

This is the drake tufted duck — "drake duck" sounds odd, but phrases like "tufted drake" have come to sound pedantic. I also have to call the other sex "the female", because "the duck" would be ambiguous and "the duck duck" would sound absurd. Anyway, she is dark brown, but is likewise paler on the flanks, and she too sports the pigtail or tuft.

This is another species that has become a common breeding bird in Britain only in comparatively recent times — it was first recorded in 1824. In the present century, it has benefited greatly from the increase in gravel pits with overgrown banks on which it can nest.

They are more widespread from October onward because many come here to winter from northern Scandinavia and Siberia. Some of our native birds will mate with these immigrants and go back home with them — a practice known as abmigration.

When they are in active mood they are a delight to watch. They are diving ducks, picking up molluscs or weed seeds from the bottom of a lake, and they will go down as many as a hundred times an hour. Generally they dive with a slight leap forward. They stay down for about 20 seconds, and you never know where they are going to bob up again. Sometimes they are found in large flocks, all going up and down.

In early spring, one of the most delightful sounds to be heard from a lakeside comes from little groups of tufted ducks, as the drakes start courting. They make a soft, bell-like note, only audible for a short distance. The sunshine brings out a brilliant purple gloss on their heads, which they throw back excitedly as part of their courting display, letting their tufts dangle. Sometimes you hear a growling note from the female.

They have paired up by April, but they are slow to nest after that. It will be almost June before they start building under a bush or in thick grass. Once started, however, they are energetic, with the female commonly laying a dozen large eggs or more. The brown ducklings are out on the water as soon as they hatch and are diving within a few hours.

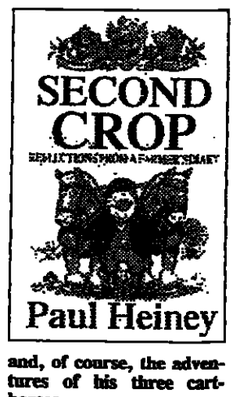
Many of them will fall victim to pike and heron. But some will still be there to join the winter flocks when they come down from the north — and perhaps, when the spring days lengthen, will be off to breed with a foreign mate.

DERWENT MAY

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